

1. The Creation of Woman: principal characters/tricks on both sides that led to creation/significance of story.

The creation of woman evolves from a series of tricks and retaliations between Zeus and Prometheus. It starts when Prometheus tricks Zeus by serving him sacrificial bones covered in fat. Zeus makes revenge by taking away fire from men whom Prometheus created. After that, Prometheus steals fire back for his beloved human. Zeus, then, makes Prometheus suffer by bounding him to a rock and turning him into eternal food of Zeus's eagle. The final trick of Zeus is creating Pandora and giving her to men. Her name means "gift". However, the inside truth reveals that she is actually a curse for Prometheus's theft of fire. Created with the help of many Olympian gods and goddesses, Pandora was beautiful as she had the form of a goddess and a lovely face of a maiden which can make any man fall for her. But Hermes filled her with lies and thievish behavior. Pandora is described as a lazy woman who only consumes but does not help to produce. She has terrible personalities that lead to Pandora's jar tragedy later on. When Pandora opens the lid of the jar containing sickness, pain, sorrow, and other bad things, man kinds have to suffer all kinds of torment that turn their lives miserable and can cause them painful deaths.

Pandora is the first woman created but she is also the reason for the suffering of human beings. The jar which she opened is like her in the way that both are beautiful on the outside but evils within. The creation of Pandora implies that women are dangerous and inferior. Therefore, they are looked down on and needed to be controlled. This helps to explain the meaning of the word "misogyny", which is hatred of women, and to understand the low status of women in old Greek society. Moreover, the story also set a foundation for the western negative perception of women which still exists till now.

2. The Greek Flood Myth: what precipitated the flood, (Lycaon)? name the characters; how long did it last? What is its importance for Greek society? (You may also compare and contrast with Mesopotamian Flood Myths.)

The Greek Flood Myth starts when Zeus visits the house of Lycaon who shows no respect toward Zeus. Also, Lycaon, who is the king of Arcadia, decides to test divinity by serving Zeus human flesh, which makes Zeus very angry. Therefore, he wants to destroy humans by sending a flood. Deucalion, who is the son of Prometheus, and Pyrrha, who is the daughter of Epimetheus and Pandora, are considered as a decent couple who always respect the gods. They receive a warning from Prometheus about the flood and thus, are saved. The flood lasts for 9 days and nights. After the disaster, they sacrifice and pray to the goddess Themis, who told them the way to repopulate the earth. Following Themis's instruction, Deucalion and Pyrrha throw stones that turn into men and women.

The story explains the idea that human beings are brought back to life from the earth. Moreover, the children of Deucalion and Pyrrha are considered to be the ancestors of the Greeks. This establishes divine ancestry for the Greeks as they are descendants of gods. The story also explains the importance of being pious toward the gods. It is an important rule that as long as humans respect the gods and make sufficient sacrifices, they will be able to live. The Greek Flood Myth follows the common motif of other Mesopotamian Flood Myths. Even though the reason varies in different stories, there is always a flood that the gods send to destroy humans because of humankind being bad. Also, there is always a good person that the gods/goddesses want to save, and he survives on a boat. After the flood, humans make a sacrifice to the gods to express their respect.