

"Create-a-Character"
English / Social Studies

Yes, it's true. Now is your chance to shed your image as a "normal" seventh grader and become the mythological character of your choice. You may choose any person, god, demi-god, or monster from Greek Mythology, research them, and present information to the class. But wait... There's more! Not only do you get to take on the personality of this creature, you can earn 160 (100 in English, 60 in Soc. St.) valuable points by doing so. Here's how the assignment will work:

1. Select a favorite character from your class reading, notes, or your own independent investigation.
2. Research them thoroughly. We will have time to research in our media center, but a trip to the WDM library would be a good idea, as well.
3. **Your presentation will be a 2-3 minute monologue. It should be informative, creative, and believable - remember you ARE the character!** Example: "I thought I'd take a few minutes off from blasting mortals with lightning bolts to have a talk with you. You know, it's not easy being a god..." **Costumes and props are a requirement!**
4. Meet the criteria for the assignment. REMEMBER, THE FOCUS OF THIS ASSIGNMENT IS TO PRESENT **ACCURATE** INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHARACTER. You must use **FACTS** from your research. Here are some examples:
 - When, where, and how (if appropriate) were you born or brought into being? Are there important family connections?
 - What are the most important events of your life? Why are they significant?
 - What do you do everyday? Where do you live?
 - What are your important powers, responsibilities, or actions on earth or Mt. Olympus?
 - If relevant, how did you die, become immortal or change into something else?
5. **TURN IN A ONE PAGE, WRITTEN SUMMARY (NOT A 10 PAGE COPY OF RESEARCH OR A COPY OF YOUR "WORD FOR WORD" SCRIPT), IN INK, OF THE INFORMATION YOU PRESENT. THIS IS A SUMMARY—NOT A SCRIPT! HAVE FUN! THE MORE YOU GET INTO YOUR CHARACTER, THE BETTER IT WILL BE!**
6. The following characters may NOT be used for your project:
Hades, Ge, Rhea, Cronos, Uranus, Persephone, Demeter
7. You and a classmate from your social studies class can present TOGETHER! If there is a story with two characters that you would like to present together you may. These presentations will be **3-5 minutes long**. You and your partner will be **graded separately**. Each of you must still turn in an **INDIVIDUAL summary**, and your presentation must be more than just acting out the story (read the grading criteria).

Grading Criteria - Create-a-Character

Category	Excellent	Good	Doesn't Meet Criteria
Use of class time English - 10 points	You were consistently on task during class research and demonstrated good citizenship.	You were usually on task during class work time.	You did not use your time well in the library and / or distracted others.
Presentation English - 40 points	You had a comfortable posture, appropriate facial expressions, made eye contact, and your voice was easily heard. You met the time requirement.	You generally had a comfortable posture, appropriate facial expressions, eye contact, and voice projection. You met the time requirement.	You were stiff or had inappropriate facial expressions and made little or no eye contact. Your voice could not be heard. Your presentation was not long enough.
Costume and Props English - 10 points	Your costume and props contribute to the realism and information in your presentation.	You had a costume, but it did not significantly enhance your presentation. Few, if any, props were used.	No costume or props were used.
Memorization / Practice English - 10 points	Your presentation was memorized or very well-practiced.	You used only one note card.	You were not prepared for your presentation.
Written Summary English - 20 points	Your written summary is accurate and complete. It is typed or written in ink. It is free of grammatical and mechanical errors. It has complete sentences and paragraphs.	Your written summary is accurate and complete. It is generally free of grammatical and mechanical errors.	Your written summary is complete or inaccurate. It is not in finished form.
Research & Class Time Social Studies - 15 points	You were consistently on task in the library and demonstrated good citizenship. You used a wide variety of resources.	You were consistently on task in the library. You used only a few basic resources.	You did not use your time well in the library and / or distracted others. Your research was insufficient or incomplete. You left out important information.
Information Social Studies - 45 points	The information presented was accurate, thorough, and complete. You demonstrated an excellent understanding of the character.	The information was accurate, and fairly complete. You demonstrated a general understanding of the character.	Your information was inaccurate and incomplete. You demonstrated little understanding of the character.