

Name _____

The Divine Encounters: Greek Gods and Their Interaction with Humans

Short Answer Key

1. An example of a Greek god who punished humans is Zeus. He punished Prometheus for stealing fire from the gods by having him chained to a rock while an eagle ate his liver daily. The reason for his punishment was to make an example of him and deter other mortals from challenging divine authority.
2. Patronage in Greek mythology refers to the practice of cities, regions, or individuals choosing a specific god or goddess as their protector and provider. It related to the interaction between Greek gods and mortals by establishing a bond of mutual respect and reliance. Humans believed that by honoring a particular deity, they could gain favor and protection in return.
3. Prophecies and oracles played a significant role in Greek mythology as they were believed to convey the will and wisdom of the gods. Humans sought their guidance by visiting sacred sites like the Oracle of Delphi, where priestesses channeled divine messages. Leaders and individuals consulted these oracles before making important decisions, believing that following the gods' guidance would lead to favorable outcomes.
4. An example of a Greek myth that serves as a moral lesson is the story of Narcissus. The lesson it conveys is the danger of excessive self-love and vanity. Narcissus fell in love with his own reflection in a pool of water and couldn't tear himself away, eventually leading to his own demise.
5. The romantic relationship between the Greek god Zeus and the mortal woman Danaë resulted in the birth of the demigod Perseus. This relationship highlights the theme of divine-human unions and the extraordinary offspring that often emerged from such unions.

