

Name _____

The Fates and the Furies: Agents of Destiny and Retribution in Greek Mythology

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. The influence of the Fates extended even to the gods, as seen in the myth of Cronus overthrowing his father Uranus based on a prophecy. This demonstrates that even divine beings were subject to their decrees.
2. The Fates were responsible for weaving destinies and determining the course of lives, while the Furies were focused on retribution and punishing wrongdoers. The Fates represented fate and inevitability, while the Furies represented the pursuit of justice and vengeance.
3. Concepts of fate and justice are fundamental themes in Greek mythology, reflecting the idea that actions have consequences and destinies are preordained. The Fates and the Furies contribute to these themes by enforcing the cosmic order and ensuring that justice is served, even to gods.
4. The terrifying appearance of the Furies with snakes for hair and eyes that dripped with blood symbolizes the fearsome and relentless nature of their pursuit of justice. It conveys the idea that justice is unyielding and often carries a sense of dread and foreboding.

