

# WEEK AT A GLANCE

## WEEK 25

### LITERATURE

About the Author: Virgil

A Closer Look at Virgil's Epic Poem

*The Aeneid* Books 1-3

Video: Turkey: The Ancient City of Troy (2:46)

Painting: "Aeneas Fleeing from Burning Troy" by Federico Barocci, 1598

### COMPOSITION

A Closer Look At Motif

Examining Motif in *The Aeneid*

# ABOUT THE AUTHOR

## VIRGIL

Fill in the information about Virgil from an internet search and reading “A Golden Age of Latin Literature: Virgil” in Ch. 6 in your history book: *Western Civilization: Volume I: to 1715 (9th edition)*

Born:

Died:

Place of Origin:

Brief Life Summary:

Major Literary Works:

Significant Character or Topic:

Reason for writing *The Aeneid*:

*The Aeneid* links Roman history to:

According to Virgil, ideal Roman virtues are

a. Duty

b. Piety

c. Faithfulness

# A CLOSER LOOK AT VIRGIL'S EPIC POEM

You have read both *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*. In these poems, Homer celebrated Greek history by creating characters with heroic values in an epic plot underscored by supernatural forces. Homer believed that the Trojan and Greek warriors were far superior to the men of his own time, which contrasted with Virgil and his superhero, Aeneas. While Homer looked back at ancient Greece fondly with Agamemnon, Hector, Odysseus and the greatness of Hellenism, Virgil was looking to the future majesty of Rome and its destiny to rule in peace. Virgil used Aeneas, whose mother was a goddess, as an ancient and divine connection to Rome, which had the duty to lead the world.

Leithart, Peter. *Heroes of the City of Man: A Christian Guide to Select Ancient Literature*. Canon Press. 1999.

Like Homer, Virgil wrote *The Aeneid* in Dactylic Hexameter. Dactylic poetry consists of a three syllable foot of poetry where a stressed syllable is followed by two unstressed syllables. The original language of *The Aeneid* is Latin. These are the first seven lines from Book 1 in Latin and English:

Arma virumque canō, Trōiae quī prīmus ab orīs  
 Ītāliam, fātō profugus, Lāvīniaque vēnit  
 lītora, multum ille et terrīs iactātus et altō  
 vī superum saevae memorem Iūnōnis ob iram;  
 multa quoque et bellō passūs, dum conderet urbem,  
 inferretque deōs Latīō, genus unde Latīnum,  
 Albānīque patrēs, atque altae moenia Rōmae.  
<http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/vergil/aen1.shtml>

Arms and the man I sing, who first from the shores  
 of Italy, exiled by fate, came to the Lavinian  
 the shore, and a lot of it, and on land and sea  
 force of the gods to satisfy stern Juno's sleepless wrath;  
 many things also, and the war he suffered, until he could found the city, 5  
 and bring the gods to Latium, whence the Latin race,  
 the Alban fathers and the walls of high Rome.  
<http://www.thelatinlibrary.com/vergil/aen1.shtml>

# WHO'S WHO IN ANCIENT ROME

DIRECTIONS: USING THE INDEX IN THE BACK OF YOUR BOOK, WRITE THE GREEK NAME NEXT TO THE LATIN NAME:

Jove                  Zeus

Jupiter

Juno

Minerva

Neptune

Venus

Ulysses

Mars

Vesta

# THE AENEID

BY VIRGIL

Setting: c. 1240 BC; Troy, Mediterranean Region, Italy

*Please Note: If the line numbers in your translation are not the same as the line numbers in the questions, you can still find the answers in the text.*

Please note: Write about literature in present tense.

## BK 1: SAFE HAVEN AFTER THE STORM

1. The exile driven by Fate is Aeneas. According to line 3, what is his destiny?
2. In lines 11-12, how does the author describe Aeneas?
3. Read lines 14-41 carefully. Why do you think Juno is afraid for her favorite city, Carthage, and why she is still angry?
4. How does Juno try to keep Aeneas and his ships from progressing on their journey to Italy?

5. Who stops the storm that is sinking the Trojan ships?
6. In lines 161-163, why does Neptune believe it is his right to rule the seas and Aeolus is wrong to impose his power over the ocean?
7. After the ships make it safely to a harbor, Aeneas takes his bow and arrows to hunt. He sees a herd of deer. What does he shoot first?
8. How does the author characterize the rest of the herd in line 225?
9. What does rabble mean?
10. In lines 241-243, what does Aeneas tell his men?
11. What words in these lines indicate that what Aeneas says is going to happen will actually happen?
12. The scene shifts to Olympus where Venus is talking to Jupiter about Aeneas and his wandering through the Mediterranean instead of reaching Italy. What does Venus refer to again that indicates Aeneas' destiny is to establish Rome and for Rome to rule the world?
13. Summarize Jupiter's prophecy for Aeneas and the Trojans in lines 312-355?

14. In line 367, how does the author describe Aeneas?
15. In line 457, how does Aeneas describe himself?
16. Why does Aeneas weep as he approaches the temple in Carthage? What is his response to what he sees? Who does this remind you of from ancient poetry?
  
17. How does Prince Ilioneus describe Aeneas in lines 654-656?
  
18. In line 736, Dido is talking to Aeneas about destiny. What is the implied metaphor she uses regarding destiny?
19. Dido refers to her destiny of suffering. What has it led her to do for others?
  
20. Venus sends her son Cupid in the form of Ascanius, Aeneas' son. Why does Venus do this?

TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THE SETTING OF THE AENEID  
VIEW THE FOLLOWING VIDEOS AND PAINTING.

## VIDEO

### TURKEY: THE ANCIENT CITY OF TROY (2:46)

YOUTUBE VIDEO POSTED BY DAVIDSBEENHERE PUBLISHED  
ON JUNE 12, 2014

Watch a video of modern day Troy.

## PAINTING

### "AENEAS FLEEING FROM BURNING TROY"

BY FEDERICO BAROCCI, 1598

View a picture of Aeneas escaping Troy titled "Aeneas' Flight from Troy" on p. 39 in *Art that Changed the World* or you can search the internet and find the painting within the public domain.



# BK 2: THE FINAL HOURS OF TROY

1. At the beginning of Aeneas' retelling of the Trojan War, what is the conflict between the people of Troy regarding the horse?
2. Who says this famous line, "I fear the Greeks, especially bearing gifts?"
3. In lines 63-67, what does Laocoon do to the horse? What is the response from the horse?
4. According to Sinon, why do the Greeks build the horse and offer it to Minerva (Athena)?
5. In lines 235-243, why does Sinon say the Greeks made it so large?
6. What will happen if the Trojans violate the horse?
7. How has the horse already been violated and by whom?
8. What will happen if the Trojans take the horse into the city?
9. In lines 263-289, what happens to Laocoon that convinces the Trojans that the horse is safe?

10. Sinon releases the Greeks from the belly of the horse. The city is under attack. Who warns Aeneas to leave the city and what does he urge him to take with him?
11. Aeneas is portrayed as valiantly fighting his way through a dying Troy. What emotion is he feeling as he watches the city burn and its people die?
12. What epic simile does Virgil use in lines 584-592?
13. What happens in lines 629-681 that jolts Aeneas' heart to his family?
14. What omen does Jupiter send to Aeneas involving Iulus (Ascanius), his son?
15. What is the second omen that Jupiter sends Aeneas to confirm Iulus' flaming head?
16. Reread lines 342-347 from Book 1. Who is Iulus' descendant that will be a renowned leader of Rome?
17. Who does Aeneas lose on his flight from Troy?
18. Aeneas calls the Trojan Horse experience "the last great agony of Troy." What do you think is the most tragic part of the story? Give at least one example from the text.

# BK 3: LANDFALLS, PORTS OF CALL

1. In line 10, what word is connected to destiny?
2. While Odysseus' goal is to get home to Ithaca, what does Aeneas believe about his future and destiny?
3. Aeneas' fleet lands and begins to build a city in Thrace. He names it Aenus. What is the story behind the bloody roots of the plants that Aeneas pulls up when all he is trying to do is build a canopy to house his sacrifices to Jupiter? See lines 30-73.
4. In *The Odyssey*, Odysseus' goal is to get home to his family and kingdom. How does Aeneas' prayer to Apollo reflect a slightly different desire than Odysseus'? See lines 100-108.
5. Where does Anchises assume the voice is telling them to go?
6. Again, Aeneas begins to build city walls in Crete. He calls the city Pergamum. What happens that suddenly makes Crete look like a bad idea for building a city?
7. What do Aeneas' household gods tell him to do in lines 200-210?
8. Aeneas and his fleet of ships land on the Strophades. It is the land of the Harpies. Describe the Harpies:

9. What does the Harpie, Celaeno, predict for Aeneas and his crew? Why?
10. After passing Ithaca and many other Greek landmarks, Aeneas and his ships land at Actium. Where was Actium located? You may do an internet search to answer.
11. What happened in the Battle of Actium in 31 BC? You may do an internet search to answer.
12. What role does Octavian eventually play for Rome? You may do an internet search to answer.
13. Even though *The Aeneid* is set c. 1200 BC, it is believed that Virgil wrote the poem between 29-19 BC, after the Battle of Actium, where Octavian is the victor. In lines 329-345, what do Aeneas and his men do while at Actium?
14. Considering that Virgil wrote *The Aeneid* to give Rome a glorious beginning with a profound purpose of ruling the peaceful known world, why do you think he has Aeneas landing at Actium?
15. Throwback to *The Iliad*...

Use lines 350-435 and your book's index to answer the following questions.

Who is Helenus?

Who is Priam?

Who is Hector?

Who is Andromache?

Who is Pyrrhus?

16. Helanus is Priam's son and a seer. He tells many things to Aeneas about his journey to Italy; List four here:

17. What is Aeneas' goal in building a new city in Italy?

18. Who does Aeneas and his crew run into on the Island of the Cyclops?

19. What major life event happens at the end of Book 3 for Aeneas?

# A CLOSER LOOK AT MOTIF

Motif in a text, song, movie, or television show is a repeated idea or image throughout a piece that usually supports the theme. The reader's job is to recognize when a repeated idea or image has meaning. Many of your favorite movies or books have easily recognizable motifs. For example, *Captain America* uses the shield throughout the movie. He uses it to protect himself and others. In *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*, the repeated idea of the lion as a representative of Jesus is a powerful motif.

From the following list, match the book with its correct motif. Use an internet search if you need to.

<i>Frankenstein</i> by Mary Shelley	Pair
<i>Metamorphosis</i> by Franz Kafka	Ring
<i>Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson	Imagination
<i>Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain	Rejection
<i>Julius Caesar</i> by William Shakespeare	The Moor
<i>Oliver Twist</i> by Charles Dickens	Transformation
<i>Hound of the Baskervilles</i> by Sherlock Holmes	Identity
<i>The Hobbit</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien	Death

# EXAMINING MOTIF IN THE AENEID

## DIRECTIONS:

This is the essay prompt and requirements for the essay you are writing in Week 29. **You are not writing the essay this week.**

*The Iliad*, and *The Odyssey* are epic poems that rival any 21st century storytelling. They both employ powerful plots, jaw-dropping images, and larger-than-life characters. *The Aeneid* is no different even though it has Roman origins. Pay attention to images and ideas that you see repeated in *The Aeneid*. Construct a thesis statement and write an essay defining motif for *The Aeneid* using plot examples as support.

Think about motifs you noticed while reading *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*.

Write the dominant motif for the Greek Epic poems.

Poem	Possible Motif	Your Motif
<i>The Iliad</i>	Rage	_____
<i>The Odyssey</i>	Water	_____

Next week you will write a thesis statement for the Essay Examining Motif in *The Aeneid*

## REQUIREMENTS FOR ESSAY EXAMINING MOTIF IN THE AENEID:

- Typed
- Double spaced
- Title Page
- 12 point font
- Times New Roman
- 3-4 pages
- Five Paragraphs: Intro, Three Body Paragraphs on Motif in *The Aeneid* and Conclusion
- 6 direct quotes with in-text citation; 2 direct quotes per Body Paragraph
- MLA formatting for in-text citation of a poem
- Works Cited Page
- Present tense
- 3rd person
- Motif Chart
- BYB chart
- Major Points Outline for complete essay
- All rough drafts
- Final Copy

YOU ARE WRITING THE ESSAY IN WEEK 29.