

# Ancient Origins – Mythology and the Beginnings of Literature

## The Epic of Gilgamesh

The Epic of Gilgamesh is a long poem from Ancient Mesopotamia, regarded as the **oldest surviving literary text**. It was written down from various sources sometime **between 2100 – 1200 BCE in Ancient Summarian on clay tablets**.

The Epic tells the story of the **great King, Gilgamesh, part god, part man** and his wild friend Enkidu. The story is filled with adventures, mythical creatures and trials for Gilgamesh. It has been translated into many languages, including English, and continues to influence modern readers.



## Using subordinating conjunctions:

Teach	Model	Subordinating Conjunctions:
<p><b>Subordinating conjunctions</b> are used in a <b>subordinate clause</b>.</p> <p>Subordinate clauses (sometimes called 'dependent clauses' rely and depend upon attaching to a <b>main clause</b>.</p> <p>In doing so, you will form a complex sentence.</p> <p><b>Subordinating conjunctions</b> will be used in a complex sentence.</p> <p>Use <b>commas</b> after, or around, the subordinate clause.</p>	<p>Although xenia was a sign of respect for the Ancient Greeks, Penelope's guests are disrespectful and rude.</p> <p>Xenia was a sign of respect for the Ancient Greeks, although in the Odyssey, Penelope's guests are disrespectful and rude.</p>	<p>after although as as if as long as as much as soon as as though because before even if even though</p> <p>how if unless provided Since until when while whenever where wherever while</p>

## Writing a thesis statement:

Teach	Model	Write
<p><b>One sentence</b> to answer the question with <b>two different viewpoints</b>.</p> <p><b>Try beginning with a discourse marker of contrast</b></p> <p>Whereas Despite Although At first glance</p> <p><b>Use a comma to separate viewpoints</b></p>	<p><i>Despite being desperate to get home, Odysseus angered the gods with his hubris resulting in the journey taking ten years.</i></p> <p><i>Despite being [epithet], [character] is presented as [adjective/ point 1], [adjective/ point 2], and [adjective/ point 3].</i></p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Initially, [text or character] seems to be... However, at a deeper level/ However, on closer inspection/ However, it is arguable that...</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Because [first idea], [second idea]</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Despite [character] being..., they...</p>

- a) Diminutive
- b) Plummeting
- c) Clamour
- d) Parry
- e) Concord

## THE ODYSSEY

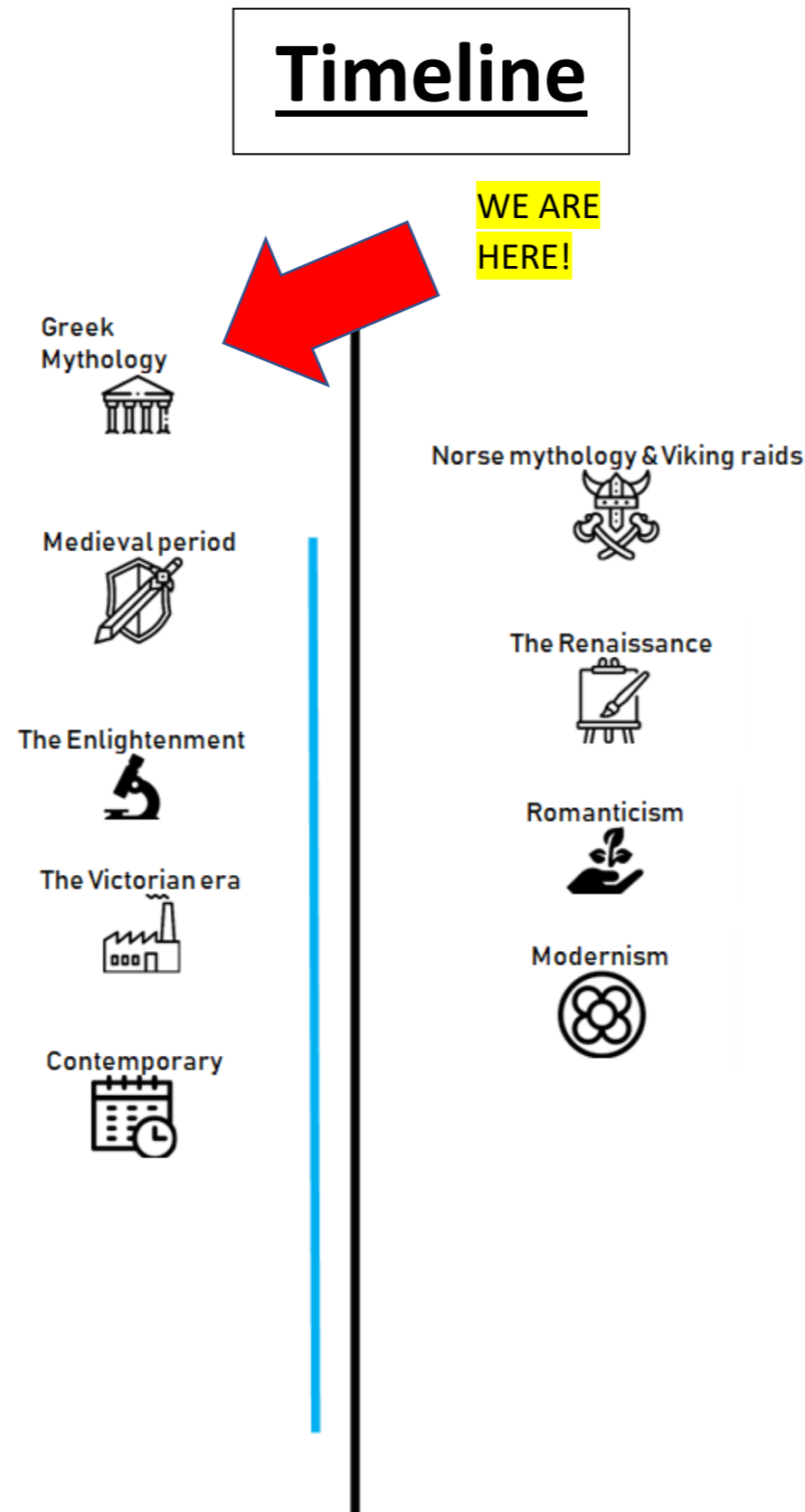
The Odyssey is an **epic poem by Homer**. The hero, Odysseus (known as Ulysses to the Romans), has a ten-year journey home to the island of Ithaca. He faces and defeats many dangers on this journey. He meets Cyclops, a monster with only one eye, and the Sirens, whose beautiful songs drew sailors to their deaths by drowning.

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Simon  
Armitage  
Homer's  
Odyssey

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Word	Say it	Spell it	Know it (definition & example)
<b>Xenia</b> (noun)	/zee-nee-uh/	X-en-ia	<p><i>It's a bit like saying guest hospitality and looking after guests.</i></p> <p><b>Xenia</b> was highly important to the Greek Gods.</p> <p><i>It's a bit like protecting and being hospitable to visitors – a Greek term.</i></p> <p>It was believed all travellers were sent from Zeus, so giving <b>xenia</b> was considered respectful to this God.</p>
<b>Myth</b> (noun)	/m-i-ff/	m-y-th	<p><i>It's a bit like saying 'earliest' stories.</i></p> <p>A <b>myth</b> is a traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people... or explaining some natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events.</p>
<b>In media res</b>			
<b>Deus ex machina</b>			
<b>Metaphor</b>			
<p><b>Tenor</b></p> <p><b>Vehicle</b></p> <p><b>ground</b></p>			
<b>Epithet</b>			



### Creative Writing!

- 3-word sentence
- Subordinate clause
- Sentences beginning with adverb
- More, more, more sentence
- A sentence which includes speech

*Home at last! The long journey, which had been punishing and torturous, was over for Odysseus. Longingly, Odysseus had wished to be back with Penelope and Telemachus - now he was! The more he realised this, the more his head cleared, and the more he felt a strong desire to celebrate.*

*"Let's feast! Bring wine!" Odysseus then declared to the household, as Penelope tenderly laid her hand on his shoulder.*

#### More, more, more

'The more... the more..., and the more....'

'More...., as more....., and more....'

'More...; more.... ; more.....'

#### Subordinate clauses:

Although Penelope was given many wonderful gifts, she still detested the suitors.

Since Penelope..... , .....

Whilst Penelope .... , .....