

### **Stories of Perseus (*Myths and Their Meanings* p. 142)**

Answer the following questions in full and grammatically coherent sentences.

1. What is an Oracle? You may need to use a dictionary. What is the importance of the Oracle in the story of Perseus? What literary term (from our list of terms) would best apply to the function of the Oracle in the story?
2. What form did Zeus take when he visited Danae?
3. Why does Perseus set out to hunt Medusa?
4. Describe the Gorgon sisters; what are their physical traits?
5. What are all the ways in which Mercury (Hermes) is important in the story?
6. How is Perseus able to kill Medusa? What tactics does he use, and what weapons/items does he use?
7. Find a simile and a metaphor in the last paragraph on page 146, and explain how they work.
8. What is the climax of Perseus' interaction with Phineus?
9. How is the initial foreshadowing of Acrisius' fate resolved?
10. A text can be analyzed through various different viewpoints; a reader can take different approaches to analyzing a text. Feminist approaches try to understand why and how women are treated unfairly or unequally compared to men. Is it possible to analyze this text through a feminist point of view? How would a feminist analysis be critical of the story, and of other stories that contain a similar pattern?