

MUSE ON THE LOOSE: INTRODUCTION TO GREEK LITERATURE: GENRE PAPER #2

DUE OCT. 14th

In this paper your job is to take a *current news story* and retell it first in the style of Herodotus and then in the style of Thucydides. The story can be any *real* news story, but be sure to choose one simple and short enough that you can tell it in its entirety – twice! If you choose to use a more complicated story, choose only one aspect of the story that you can cover in full. Remember, the goal is not weighing in on the news of the day, but rather demonstrating your ability to *apply the literary styles* of these two ancient historians.



In order to complete this assignment successfully you will need to do the following things:

- Provide a link to the news story that you are covering.
 - *This can go either at the top of the first page or at the bottom of the last page.*
 - *This should not be included in your word count.*
- Clearly mark each retelling with a heading such as “News in the Style of Herodotus” and “News in the Style of Thucydides” or something similar.
- Write the story once in the manner of Herodotus. (400-700 words)
- Write the story a second time in the manner of Thucydides. (400-700 words)
- Send a well-written and well-edited 12 pt double-spaced paper of between 800-1400 words to me at sfisher@lukeion.org no later than **7:00 pm ET on October 14th**
 - *Review the penalties for late papers in the syllabus and plan accordingly!*

Characteristics of Herodotus’

History: included story-telling, digressions, dialogue, unsubstantiated information, his own opinions, an obvious political agenda, belief in divine intervention, superstition, and his own morality and philosophy.

Characteristics of Thucydides’

History: scientific approach to history, showed cause and effect, didn’t sensationalize, did not aim to be entertaining, recorded the facts without his own morality or opinions included, included speeches and dialogue.

Your grade on this paper will depend upon both your understanding and application of the styles of Herodotus and Thucydides, as well as your use of proper vocabulary, grammar, and punctuation.