

HW Journal 11/5: On your way home from school today, you are visited by a quartet of very good-looking deities: Hera, Aphrodite, Athena, and Apollo. They don't ask you to pick the best looking because, without a doubt, it's Apollo! Instead, these deities have come with a no-strings attached thank-you gift for making them look fabulous in your recent poster.* However, you do have to make a choice—you only get one of the following:

- 1- Hera offers political power. If you accept her gift, you can look forward to a fast track political career, and are guaranteed to be elected U.S. President in 2032. (Strath Haven Wall of Honor here you come!)
- 2- Athena offers you academic success and glory. If you accept her gift, you will be known as a great scholar and will become the youngest recipient of the Nobel Prize in whatever category you choose (physics, chemistry, medicine, literature, or economics).
- 3- Aphrodite offers you a guarantee of romantic love from your ideal soul mate (but just one person—no assembly line of romantic attachments, please!).
- 4- Apollo offers you the gift of seeing into the future, and he promises to not interfere with this by causing others not to believe you.

So which gift do you take? Answer the prompt by explaining your reasons in a persuasive way. Pretend your best friend (coincidentally named Laocoon) urges you not to take the gift. Provide the kind of reasoned explanation that would satisfy even Laocoon. Obviously, you may use 1st person, but do edit and polish your answer.

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- They have been absolutely starved for attention ever since worship of them fell out of fashion 2,500 years ago.

Alternate Journal Option (If you are more of a Laocoon than a Paris):

Journal on Choice A or B under the “Journal on the concept of hero” on the final page of your “Heroes of the Trojan War” Packet.

Regardless of your choice, be sure to fill at least a full page. Follow journal instructions.

Myths probably started out as good stories shared among family and friends. Do you have a favorite family story that has been told to you –not any eyewitness stories, but rather old ones that have been passed down to you and probably retold more than a few times in your presence. Tell the family legend in the best, most compelling way you can, and then explain why this story is special to you.