

NAME \_\_\_\_\_



Giuseppe Ghezzi (Italian, 1634-1721), *Judgment of Paris*, c. 1690s. Oil on canvas, 68 × 96 1/2 in. Museum purchase, 1998. SN11033

Look at the painting above. Label the characters in the story below.



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Paris had to make an impossible choice: a mere mortal couldn't possibly choose which of the goddesses was most beautiful, and all three goddess resorted to bribery to win the contest. Can you think of an impossible choice people sometimes have to make in today's world?

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Let's think about consequences—do you know what happened to Paris and the city of Troy in the Trojan war? If Paris had made a different choice, how do you think his life would be different?

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Edward Burne-Jones (British, 1833 - 1898), *The Sirens (Les femmes chasseresses)*, c. 1891/1898. Oil on canvas, 84 x 120 7/16 in. Bequest of John Ringling, 1936. SN422

Use the artwork above to answer the questions below.

What colors are you seeing in this image?

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What emotions or moods do you think the artist is trying to show us in *The Sirens*?

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What are you seeing that makes you think of those emotions or feelings?

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This painting depicts a story from Homer's epic poem *The Odyssey*. An epic poem depicts a story of a heroic individual's exploits in a way that aggrandizes the beliefs of their culture. *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* by Homer are two works that narrate stories of the Trojan War. These texts were central to the Greek cultural ideals of unity among city-states and perseverance through trials. *The Sirens* illustrates a scene from *The Odyssey* in which sirens are summoning a ship into their grasp.

Why do you think these stories would be relevant to subsequent, non-Greek societies?

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Create your own! Write your own outline below for an epic poem that utilizes characters or figures of today.

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