Design Your Own Greek God: Attributes, Symbols, and Costume

Original tasks 1, 2 / complete keys

Task 1

Invent a god of river crossings. Choose one dominant symbol and one supporting symbol. Write a meaning statement for each. State a proportion convention and describe the posture in one sentence.

Answer: Example: Domain: This god guides travelers across safe river crossings. Dominant symbol: a flat stepping stone held in the left hand, meaning 'I mark the safe path.' Supporting symbol: a short reed in the right hand, meaning 'I read the current.' Proportion convention: seven head-heights. Posture: standing with feet apart and one hand pointing down to the stone.

Reason: The domain is specific and original. Two symbols are chosen, each with a short meaning statement. The proportion convention is stated, and the posture supports the guiding role.

Check: Count the symbols: one dominant and one supporting. Check each meaning statement is eight words or fewer. Confirm the proportion number is stated and the posture sentence mentions the guiding action.

Task 2

Design a costume for a god of seed libraries. List two main garment shapes and one accent. Label each with a functional name. Explain in one sentence how the costume supports the domain.

Answer: Example: Main shape one: a layered apron with three horizontal pockets, labeled 'seed pocket apron.' Main shape two: a loose shoulder wrap, labeled 'carry wrap.' Accent: a repeated seed-pod motif along the hem, labeled 'pod hem.' The costume supports the domain because the pockets hold seeds and the wrap suggests carrying and protecting a collection.

Reason: Two main shapes and one accent meet the limit. Functional labels connect each part to the domain. The explanation ties the costume to seed keeping.

Check: Verify there are exactly two main shapes and one accent. Check each label is a functional name, not a decorative word. Confirm the explanation mentions seeds or protecting a collection.

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Original tasks 3, 4 / complete keys

Task 3

A student draws a god of morning fog with five symbols: a sun, a cloud, a mirror, a key, and a feather. The silhouette is cluttered. Suggest a revision that keeps one dominant symbol and two supporting symbols, and state a meaning for each.

Answer: Example revision: Keep the cloud as the dominant symbol, meaning 'I soften the morning light.' Keep the mirror as a supporting symbol, meaning 'I hide what is far.' Keep the feather as a supporting symbol, meaning 'I drift without sound.' Remove the sun and the key because they do not support the fog domain as directly.

Reason: The revision reduces five symbols to three and assigns a short meaning to each. Removing the sun and key improves focus and reduces clutter.

Check: Count the kept symbols: one dominant and two supporting. Check each meaning is eight words or fewer. Confirm the removed symbols are named and a reason is given.

Task 4

Measure your paper and drawing tool. Suppose your paper is 20 cm wide and 28 cm tall, and you choose eight head-heights. Calculate the height of one head-height unit in centimeters if the figure uses the full paper height minus a 4 cm margin at the top and bottom. Show the arithmetic and state the unit.

Answer: Example: Usable height = 28 cm minus 4 cm top margin minus 4 cm bottom margin = 20 cm. One head-height = 20 cm divided by 8 = 2.5 cm. Unit: centimeters. These numbers are hypothetical examples; measure your own paper and state your actual values.

Reason: The calculation subtracts both margins from the paper height, then divides by the number of head-heights. The unit is kept consistent in centimeters.

Check: Recheck the subtraction: 28 minus 4 minus 4 equals 20. Recheck the division: 20 divided by 8 equals 2.5. Confirm the answer states centimeters and notes the values are hypothetical.

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Source rubric / reflection

- [ ] Domain is original and stated in one clear sentence.
- [ ] One dominant symbol and no more than two supporting symbols are present.
- [ ] Each symbol has a short meaning statement of eight words or fewer.
- [ ] Costume has two or three main shapes and one accent, each labeled with a functional name.
- [ ] Proportion convention is stated and used consistently.
- [ ] Silhouette communicates the domain when squinted at.
- [ ] Labels are readable and consistent enough to check; letter style may vary.

Reflection: What did you check, what did you change, and what will you try next?