

Unit 2 - Homework 1: Hesiod's *Theogony*

In order to help you answers these questions, see pages 41—48 in Unit 2.

1. Like the Babylonian author(s) of the *Enuma Elish*, the Boeotian epic poet Hesiod dealt with the matter of whether or not something can come from nothing.

(i) According to Hesiod, can something come from nothing? Why or why not? Explain.

- (ii) On the question of whether or not something can come from nothing, did Hesiod agree with the Babylonian author(s) of the *Enuma Elish*? Why or why not? Explain.
(Note: If you need to review the *Enuma Elish* creation myth, see pages 14—21 in Unit 2.)

2. Like the Babylonian author(s) of the *Enuma Elish*, the epic poet Hesiod dealt with the matter of theomachy (θεομαχία) or war of the gods.

(i) According to Hesiod, what role did the titanomachy (τιτανομαχία) or titan-war play in the story of how Zeus became the King of the Gods?

(ii) How was Hesiod's titanomachy (τιτανομαχία) like the theomachy (θεομαχία) in the Babylonian *Enuma Elish* myth?

(Note: If you need to review the *Enuma Elish* creation myth, see pages 14–21 in Unit 2.)

3. When he was dying, Father Sky prophesied a similar fate for his son Cronus. How did Father Sky's prophesy come true?

4. Why did Atlas hold up the sky (above the land on which he stood)?
5. After the Trick at Mekone, Prometheus tried one more time to outwit Zeus, but things ended badly for Prometheus and human beings.
 - (i) For giving fire to human beings, how was Prometheus punished by Zeus?
 - (ii) For accepting fire from Prometheus, how were humans punished by Zeus?