

GLOSSARY OF  
NAMES AND PLACES

[*Compiled by Jessica Levenstein*]

- ACHAIA Region of the northern Peloponnese; often a name for all of Greece
- ACHELOUS Longest Greek river, and its god; his daughters were the Sirens—half-women, half-birds, with irresistible voices
- ACHERON River in southern Epirus, the traditional entrance to Hades; also its god, the father of Ascalaphus with Orphne
- ACHILLES Son of Peleus, a mortal, and Thetis, a Nereid; the most illustrious Greek hero of the Trojan War; killed Hector and was killed by Paris, Hector's brother
- ACOETES Maonian (Lydian) sailor and priest of Bacchus; called an Etruscan—one of an ancient Italian people said by Herodotus to have come from Lydia
- ACTAEON A hunter; grandson of Cadmus and son of Autoonoe and Aristaeus
- ADONIS Son of Cinyras and Myrrha, loved by Venus for his great beauty
- AEACUS Son of Jupiter and Aegina, father of Peleus, and ruler of Aegina
- AEGEON A sea-god
- AEGINA Island in the Aegean Sea, named for Aegina, daughter of Asopus and mother of Aeacus by Jupiter
- AEOLUS (1) God of the winds; (2) ancient figure with many children; one of his daughters, thought to be Canace, was loved by Neptune in the form of a bull
- AETOLIA Mountainous region in west central Greece
- AGAVE Daughter of Cadmus, mother of Pentheus, and follower of Bacchus

ALCMENE Daughter of Electryon, King of Tiryns, in Argolis; also called Tirynthia after her birthplace; wife of Amphitryon and mother of Hercules by Jupiter

ALOEUS A giant, son of Neptune; his wife, Iphimedia, was the mother of twins by Neptune

ALPHEUS Largest river in the Peloponnese, and its god

AMATHUS City in Cyprus, sacred to Venus

AMAZONS Female warriors of Scythia or Asia Minor; one of Hercules' twelve labors was to obtain the girdle of the Amazon queen, Hippolyta

AMPHION King of Thebes; twin son (with Zethys) of Antiope and Jupiter, husband of Niobe, and father of her fourteen children

AMPHITRYON King of Thebes; husband of Alcmene

AMYMONE Maiden seduced in Argos by Neptune, who named a spring in her honor

ANAPUS Husband of Cyane

ANTAEUS Libyan giant; son of Neptune and Earth, he derived his strength from contact with his mother

ANTIGONE Daughter of Laomedon, King of Troy; her beauty rivaled Juno's

ANTIOPE Daughter of Nycteus; mother of twins, Amphion and Zethys, by Jupiter disguised as a satyr

APHRODITE Greek name for Venus, the goddess of love

APOLLO Son of Jupiter and Leto, and twin brother of Diana; god of the sun and of music, poetry, and medicine; father of Phacathon and the Heliades; also called Phoebus

ARACHNE A Lydian weaver; the class Arachnida was named for her

ARCADIA Mountainous region in central Peloponnese named for Arcas, and associated with idealized rustic simplicity; a traditional setting for pastoral poetry; an Arcadian boar was slain on Mount Erymanthus by Hercules as one of his twelve labors

ARCAS Son of Callisto by Jupiter disguised as Diana

ARETHUSA Achaian nymph and follower of Diana; also the fountain on the island of Ortygia, site of Syracuse, Sicily, into which the nymph was changed

ARGOLIS Territory surrounding Argos

ARGOS City in the Peloponnese protected by Juno; often a name for all of Greece

ARTEMIS Greek name for Diana, goddess of the hunt

ASCALAPHUS Son of Orpheus and Acheron

ASOPUS River-god and father of Aegina

ASTERIA Sister of Leto; pursued by Jupiter in the form of an eagle, she turned into a quail

ASTRAEA Daughter of Jupiter and Themis; goddess of justice; she lived on earth during the Golden Age (the age of Astraea), but in the Iron Age human depravity drove her away to heaven; she was set among the constellations, under the name of Virgo

ATALANTA Huntress and athlete of great beauty

ATHENA Greek name for Minerva; patron of Athens

ATHOS Mountain in northeastern Greece

ATLAS Titan, son of Iapetus and Clymene; entrusted with the weight of the heavens, which he bore on his shoulders; father of the Pleiades and the Hyades, and grandfather of Niobe

AUGUSTUS First Roman emperor; named Octavius at birth, he was adopted by his great-uncle Julius Caesar and made his heir; after Caesar's death and civil war, he became sole ruler of Rome, with the title Augustus, and ruled for forty-one years; Ovid wrote during his reign

AUSTER South wind

AUTOLYCUS Son of Mercury (Greek: Hermes) and Chronos; husband of Erysichthon's daughter, and the maternal grandfather of Ulysses (Greek: Odysseus)

AUTONOË A follower of Bacchus; daughter of Cadmus, sister of Agave, and aunt of Pentheus

AVERNUS Lake in Italy surrounded by dark woods and known for its sulfurous waters; an entrance to the underworld

BABYLON City in Mesopotamia, on the Euphrates River, capital of Babylonia

BACCHANTES Female followers of Bacchus prone to ecstatic, sometimes violent behavior

BACCHIAE (More commonly Bacchiadae) Family named after

Bacchis, a Corinthian king; its members ruled Corinth for a century and settled throughout the ancient world

BACCHUS (Greek: Dionysus) God of wine, and divine leader of a religion marked by delirium and intoxication; son of Jupiter and Semele; and associated with Thebes

BASSARIDS (Also Bacchantes) Followers of Bacchus named for Bassareus, another name for Bacchus

BISALTIS Raped by Neptune in form of a ram, she bore the ram with the golden fleece

BOEOTIA Country in central Greece

BOÖTES Constellation in the northern sky; the name means "ox-driver"

BOREAS North wind

BUSIRIS Egyptian King who slaughtered all visitors to Egypt; he was killed by Hercules

CADMUS Founder of Thebes; grandson of Neptune, son of the Phoenician king Agenor, brother of Europa, husband of Harmonia (daughter of Mars and Venus), and father of Semele, Ino, Agave, and Autonöe

CAESAR Julius Caesar, Roman statesman and military leader who became sole ruler of the Roman world until his assassination in 44 B.C.

CAICUS River in western Asia Minor

CALLISTO Daughter of Lycaon, and a follower of Diana

CALYDON City in Aetolia; its king, Meleager, invited many of Greece's greatest heroes to hunt an enormous boar sent by Diana to ravage the land

CAYSER River in Lydia, Asia Minor, renowned for its swans

CENAEUM Promontory in northwest Euboea

CENCHREIS Wife of Cinyras and mother of Myrrha

CENTAURS Creatures, half-man and half-horse, that dwelt in the mountains of Thessaly

CEPHISUS (More commonly Cephissus) River in Boeotia and its god, the father of Narcissus

CERASTAE Tribe of horned people in Cyprus who made sacrifices of their guests

CERBERUS Three-headed guard dog of the underworld; one of Hercules' twelve labors was to bring Cerberus to the upper world

CERES (Greek: Demeter) Goddess of agriculture; daughter of Saturn and Ops, sister of Jupiter, and mother of Proserpina by Jupiter

CHIOS Island in the Aegean Sea, off the coast of Asia Minor, known for its fruit and wines

CHIRON A centaur fathered by Saturn and renowned for wisdom and learning; teacher of Jason, Achilles, and Asclepius

CILICIA Region on the southeast coast of Asia Minor

CINYRAS (1) King of Cyprus; son of Paphos, husband of Cenchreis, and father of Myrrha; unwittingly seduced by Myrrha, he fathered Adonis; (2) unknown figure whose daughter was transformed into the steps of Juno's temple as punishment for her impiety

CITHAERON Mountain between Boeotia and Attica, and the site of Bacchic rites

CLYMENE Daughter of Oceanus and Tethys, wife of Merops, and mother of Phaethon by Apollo and of Atlas and Prometheus by Iapetus

CNIDOS Greek city in Caria, southwest Asia Minor, sacred to Venus

CORINTH Greek city in the northeast Peloponnese, strategically located on the Isthmus and near the Gulf of Corinth

CUPID (Greek: Eros) Son of Venus, and god of love, which he enkindles by shooting arrows at his victims

CYANE Fountain-nymph of Sicily

CYBELE Phrygian goddess, mother of the gods, whose cult became popular in Rome

CYCLADES Islands surrounding Delos in the Aegean Sea; the Greek name means "encircling"

CYCLOPES (Singular: Cyclops) One-eyed giants who forged thunderbolts in heaven; the most famous of the Cyclopes was Polyphemus, son of Neptune, who lived in Sicily and was blinded by Ulysses

CYGNUS (Also Cyncus) Trojan son of Neptune whose father's divinity made him invulnerable to Achilles' spear

CYLLENE Highest mountain in Arcadia

CYNTHUS Mountain on Delos said to be the birthplace of Apollo and Diana, and thus sacred to them; they were thus also known as Cynthius and Cynthia

CYPRUS Large island in the eastern Mediterranean, near Asia Minor, sacred to Venus

CYTHERA Island in the Aegean Sea, sacred to Venus, who was often called Cytherea

DANAE Daughter of Acrisius, King of Argos; impregnated by Jupiter in the form of a golden shower, she gave birth to Perseus

DEIANIRA Sister of Meleager, King of Calydon, and wife of Hercules

DELOS Small island in center of the Cyclades; the birthplace of Apollo and Diana, and sacred to Apollo

DEMETER (Latin: Ceres) Goddess of agriculture; raped by Neptune in the form of a horse; her daughter was Persephone (Latin: Proserpina)

DIA (More commonly Naxos) Largest island of the Cyclades

DIANA (Greek: Artemis) Goddess of the moon and the hunt; daughter of Jupiter and Leto, and twin sister of Apollo; a virgin, with a loyal band of virgins who are devoted to her

DINDYMA (More commonly Dindymus) Mountain in Phrygia, sacred to Ceres

DIOMED (Abbreviation of Diomedes) Thracian king; son of Mars and Cyrene; one of Hercules' twelve labors was to capture his man-eating horses

DIRCE Spring in Bocotia, near Thebes, and its water-nymph

DORIS Sea-goddess; daughter of Oceanus and Tethys, wife of Ne-reus, and mother of the Nereids

DRYADS Wood nymphs; each tree had a dryad inhabiting it

EARTH Goddess, called Gaia in Greek and Terra in Latin; mother and wife of Saturn and mother of the Titans

ECHO Nymph whom Juno deprived of the ability to speak for herself, so that she could only repeat the words of others

ELIS Region in northwest Peloponnese renowned for the horses bred there; the stables of Augeus, which Hercules cleansed as one of his twelve labors, were located there

ENNA City in central Sicily

EPHYRE Ancient name for Corinth

EPIDAUROS City in northeast Argolis, in the Peloponnese, known for the worship of Asclepius or Aesculapius, son of Apollo and god of healing

EPIRUS Region of northwest Greece

ERIDANUS Ancient name of the river Po

ERIGONE Daughter of Icarus whom Bacchus pursued in the guise of a grape cluster; she hung herself in grief over her father's death, and was transformed into the constellation Virgo

ERYMANTHUS (1) River flowing between Arcadia and Elis; (2) mountain in Arcadia

ERYSICHTHON Son of King Triopas of Thessaly; he felled trees sacred to Ceres

ERYX Mountain in western Sicily, sacred to Venus

ETNA (Also Aetna) Volcano in eastern Sicily; when it erupts, Typhon, the giant pinned beneath Sicily, was said to be vomiting ashes; also said to be the workshop of Vulcan

EUBOEA Large island in the Aegean Sea, just off the eastern coast of Greece

EUPHRATES River passing through ancient Babylon, in Mesopotamia, and the longest river in southwestern Asia

EUROPA Daughter of Agenor, King of Phoenicia, and sister of Cadmus; her abduction and rape by Jupiter in the form of a bull is a favorite subject in the classical arts

EUROTAS River in southeastern Peloponnese that flows past Sparta

EURUS East wind

EURYSTHEUS Mycenaean king of Argos; descendant of Perseus; through the enmity of Juno toward Hercules, he was made master of Hercules and imposed the twelve labors upon him

EVENUS (More commonly Euenus) River in Aetolia, near Calydon

FATES Three female deities, the daughters of Jupiter and Themis, goddess of justice; said to determine the events of each mortal's

life inalterably with a thread that they spun, twisted, and finally cut short

**FURIES** (Greek: Erinyes) Three divine sisters who lived in hell and avenged evildoing, especially wrongs committed against a person's own kindred

**GARGAPHIE** Vale in Bocotia, sacred to Diana, and its spring

**GRACES** Three beautiful, divine daughters of Jupiter and Eury-nome, a sea-nymph, who presided over kindness and good acts generally

**HAEMONIA** A name for Thessaly and northern Greece; the Haemonian archer: the constellation Sagittarius, which was the centaur Chiron, placed by Jupiter among the stars

**HAEMUS** Mountain range in Thrace, now called the Balkan Mountains; once a man in love with Rhodope; they were both turned into mountains for their impiety

**HECATE** Goddess of enchantments, known for sorcery and black magic

**HECTOR** Trojan hero, oldest son of King Priam; his great conflict with Achilles is related in the *Iliad*

**HELIADES** Daughters of Apollo and Clymene, and sisters of Phae-thon; after his death they were turned into trees whose resin turned to amber

**HELICON** Mountain in Bocotia, sacred to Apollo and home of the Muses

**HERCULES** (Greek: Heracles) Greek hero, son of Jupiter and Alc-mene; performed twelve supposedly impossible labors set for him by Eurystheus

**HERMAPHRODITUS** Son of Mercury and Venus (Greek: Hermes and Aphrodite, hence his name)

**HESPERUS** Meaning "western": the home of the Hesperides, the nymphs of the evening; an island in the far west, where a tree, guarded by a dragon, bore golden apples; one of Hercules' twelve labors was to pluck these apples

**HIPPOMENES** Son of Megareus and grandson of Neptune

**HISTER** Ancient name for the Danube River

**HOURS** (Horae: Latin) Attendants of Phoebus Apollo who personified the changing seasons

**HYADES** Cluster of seven stars in Taurus, originally seven nymphs, daughters of Atlas, and sisters of the Pleiades; they were said to bring wet weather when they rise and set with the sun

**HYDRA** Venomous, many-headed snake dwelling in Lerna, a swamp in Argolis; one of Hercules' twelve labors was to kill it

**HYLLUS** Son of Hercules and Deianira

**HYMEN** The god of marriage; without his presence at the nuptials, a marriage was doomed

**HYPAEPA** Small town in Lydia, Asia Minor

**ICARUS** (More commonly Icarus) Father of Erigone; when he welcomed Bacchus, he was given the vine and the knowledge of how to make wine, which he shared with his neighbors; they killed him, thinking themselves poisoned, and he became the constellation Boötes

**IDA** (1) Mountain in Phrygia, near Troy, revered by worshippers of Cybele; (2) highest mountain in Crete, where Jupiter was raised

**INO** Daughter of Cadmus, and sister of Semele, Agave, and Autonoe

**IOLE** Daughter of Eurytus, King of Oechalia, in Euboea; loved by Hercules, after his death she married Hyllus, his son with Deianira

**ISMARUS** Mountain in Thrace known for its wine

**ISMENUS** (1) River in Bocotia, near Thebes; (2) Niobe's oldest son

**ISSE** Daughter of Macareus (son of Aeolus)

**ITYS** Son of Tereus and Procne

**JOVE** Alternate name for Jupiter

**JUNO** (Greek: Hera) Queen of the gods; daughter of Saturn and Ops, sister and wife of Jupiter, and mother of Mars and Vulcan; goddess of marriage and childbirth, and intent on punishing her husband's mortal lovers

**JUPITER** (Greek: Zeus) King of the gods; son of Saturn and Ops,

brother and husband of Juno, brother of Neptune and Pluto; lover and father of gods and mortals alike; called Jove, the Father, the Thunderer, God, and the Almighty

LAMPETIE One of the Heliades; daughter of Apollo and Clymene, and sister of Phaethon and Phaethusa

LAOMEDON King of Troy; father of Priam and Antigone

LEDA Wife of Tyndareus, King of Sparta; seduced by Jupiter in the form of a swan, she bore two sets of twins: her sons Castor and Pollux (who were set in the sky as the constellation Gemini), and her daughters Helen, wife of Menelaus, and Clytemnestra, wife of Agamemnon

LETO (Also Latona) Daughter of the Titans Coeus and Phoebe, and mother of twins, Apollo and Diana, by Jupiter

LILYBAEUM Promontory at the extreme west of Sicily; the legs of Typhon, the giant buried under the island, lay beneath it

LIRIOPE Water-nymph and mother of Narcissus by Cephisus

LUCINA Goddess of childbirth; her name means "she who brings to the light"

LYCAEUS Mountain in Arcadia, sacred to Jupiter

LYCAON Early king of Arcadia and father of Callisto; visited by Jupiter, he doubted the god's divinity

LYCIA Mountainous country in southwest Asia Minor

LYCORMAS River in Actolia whose sands were known for their golden color

LYDIA Country in western Asia Minor

LYRNEUS Small town in Mysia

MACAREUS King in Lesbos, the largest island off the western coast of Asia Minor; son of Aeolus and father of Isse

MAENALUS Mountain range in Arcadia

MAEONIA Older name for Lydia

MANTO Daughter of Tiresias who has his gift for prophecy

MARS (Greek: Ares) God of war; son of Jupiter and Juno, lover of Venus, and father of Harmonia (wife of Cadmus) and Diomedes, among others

MEANDER (Also Macander) Winding river in western Asia Minor

MEDUSA A Gorgon; snake-haired female monster whose gaze turns men to stone; raped by Neptune, she bore the winged horse Pegasus

MEGAREUS Son of Neptune and father of Hippomenes

MELANTHO Sea-nymph seduced by Neptune in the form of a dolphin

MELAS River in Thrace

MELEAGER Calydonian king, brother of Deianira

MEROPS King of Ethiopia and husband of Clymene

MIDAS Phrygian king whom Bacchus granted the power to turn everything he touched into gold; the power was taken away when he bathed in the waters of the Pactolus River

MIMAS Mountain range in Ionia, western Asia Minor

MINERVA (Greek: Pallas Athena) Virgin goddess of wisdom and technical skill, and herself a skilled weaver; the daughter of Jupiter, she sprang from his head fully armed

MNEMOSYNE A Titan, daughter of Saturn and Ops, mother of the Muses by Jupiter, and the personification of memory

MOLOSSIANS (Also Molossi) Tribal people in Epirus, in northwest Greece

MYCALE Mountainous promontory in Ionia, in western Asia Minor

MYGDONIA Another name for Phrygia

MYRRHA Daughter of Cinyras and Cenchreis and mother of Adonis

MYSIA Country in northwestern Asia Minor

NARCISSUS Beautiful son of Cephisus and Liriope

NAXOS (Also Dia) Largest island of the Cyclades, in the Aegean Sea, known for its wines and the worship of Bacchus

NEMEA Valley in Argolis where Hercules killed a lion as one of his twelve labors

NEMESIS Daughter of the goddess Night; divine personification of retribution and righteous indignation who punished mortal presumption and pride

NEPTUNE (Greek: Poseidon) God of the seas and of earthquakes;

son of Saturn and Ops, brother of Jupiter and Pluto, father of Pegasus, Cygnus, Antaeus and others, and grandfather of Megareus

NEREIDS Fifty sea-nymphs, daughters of Nereus and Doris, who attended greater gods of the sea, especially Neptune; among them were Amphitrite, wife of Neptune, and Thetis

NEREUS God of the sea, known for his wisdom; son of Oceanus and Tethys, husband and brother of Doris, and father of the Nereids

NESSUS Centaur; son of Ixion, a Thessalian king who was condemned to whirl eternally on a fiery wheel in Hades for attacking Juno

NINUS Assyrian king married to Semiramis, Queen of Babylon

NIOBE Daughter of Tantalus, granddaughter of Atlas and Jupiter, sister of the Pleiades, wife of Amphion, King of Thebes, and mother of seven sons and seven daughters

OECHALIA City in Euboea, governed by Eurytus, and destroyed by Hercules after Eurytus refused him his daughter, Iole

OETA Mountain range between Thessaly and Aetolia

OLYMPUS Mountain between Macedonia and Thessaly, and the highest mountain on the Greek peninsula; home of the gods

OPHIUSA Older name for Cyprus

OPS Goddess of the abundance of the earth; identified with the Greek goddess Rhea; wife of Saturn, and mother of many Olympian gods

ORCHOMENUS City in Arcadia

ORONTES Chief river of Syria

ORPHEUS Thracian bard, whose music could rouse emotion in wild beasts, trees, and mountains; son of the Muse Calliope by either Apollo or Oeagrus, a king of Thrace; husband of Eurydice; after her death he wandered through the mountains of Thrace, playing his lyre

ORPHNE Nymph married to Acheron, and mother of Ascalaphus

ORTYGIA Island on which the oldest part of the city of Syracuse, in Sicily, was built

OSSA High mountain in eastern Thessaly, near the Aegean coast

OTHRYS Mountain in Thessaly

PACHYNUS Promontory at the southeastern tip of Sicily; the left hand of Typhon, pinned beneath the island, lay under it

PACTOLUS Gold-bearing river in Lydia, near Sardis

PALICI Pool of water in Sicily known for its natural gases

PALLAS Another name for Minerva

PAN A native of Arcadia, half-man, half-goat, possibly the son of Jupiter or of Apollo, and the god of forests and shepherds; the sound of his panpipes could cause panic in people

PANCHAIA Legendary island in the Indian Ocean known for its spices

PANDION King of Athens, and father of Procne and Philomela

PAPHOS Son of Pygmalion and Galatea, and father of Cinyras; founder of the city of Paphos in southwest Cyprus, sacred to Venus

PARNASSUS Mountain near Delphi, in Phocis, a country between Boeotia and Aetolia, sacred to Apollo and the Muses

PARTHENIUS Mountain between Arcadia and Argolis

PELEUS A king in Thessaly; son of Aeacus, grandson of Jupiter, husband of Thetis, whom he is given in marriage because he is thought the most deserving of all men, and father of Achilles

PELION High mountain in southeast Thessaly, near the Aegean coast; the home of Chiron and other centaurs

PELOPONNESE Great peninsula forming southern part of Greek mainland; joined to rest of mainland by Isthmus of Corinth

PELORUS Promontory at the northeastern tip of Sicily; the right hand of Typhon, the giant pinioned by the island, lay beneath it

PENEUS River in Thessaly and its god

PENTHEUS King of Thebes; son of Agave, and grandson of Cadmus

PERGUSA Lake near Enna in Sicily

PERSEPHONE Greek name for Proserpina

PHAETHON Son of Apollo and Clymene, and grandson of Tethys

PHAETHUSA One of the Heliades; daughter of Apollo and Clymene, and sister of Phaethon and Lampetie



PHASIS River in Colchis, a country in Asia at the eastern end of the Black Sea

PHILOCTETES Friend of Hercules who assisted Hercules in the building of his pyre and received the bow and arrows of his friend; joined the Greeks against Troy in the tenth year of the Trojan War

PHILOMELA Daughter of Pandion, sister of Procne, and sister-in-law of Tereus

PHLEGETHON River of the underworld; its name means "burning"

PHOCAEA City in Ionia, western Asia Minor, on the Aegean coast, a center of the dye industry that obtained from mollusks a costly purple or crimson dye usually known as Tyrian purple

PHOEBUS Name for Apollo, especially as god of the sun; also refers to the sun itself

PHRYGIA Country in central and western Asia Minor

PINDUS Mountain in Thessaly

PIRENE Fountain in Corinth, sacred to the Muses

PISA City in Elis, in the northwest Peloponnese

PLEIADES Seven sisters, daughters of Atlas and Pleione, an ocean nymph

PLUTO (Greek: Hades) God of the underworld; son of Saturn and Ops, and brother of Jupiter and Neptune; also called Tartarus and Dis

PROCNE Daughter of Pandion, sister of Philomela, wife of Tereus, and mother of Itys

PROMETHEUS Demi-god; son of Iapetus, a Titan, and Clymene; a craftsman and trickster figure, he molded men out of clay and brought fire down to earth

PROPOETIDES Women from Amathus, in Cyprus, who denied the divinity of Venus; in her wrath, she made them the first prostitutes, then turned them to stone

PROSERPINA (Greek: Persephone) Daughter of Ceres and Jupiter who was abducted by Pluto; she changed Pluto's mistress, Minthe, into an herb, mint, when she discovered their affair;

Arachne's tapestry showed her seduced by Jupiter in the form of a serpent

PROTEUS Sea-god who could change his shape at will

PSOPHIS City in Arcadia

PYGMALION Cyprian sculptor, father of Paphos by Galatea

PYGMIES Dwarfs who live in Africa, India, or Scythia

RHODOPE Mountain range in Thrace; once a woman in love with Haemus; the two were transformed into mountains for their impiety

SABAEA Southwest Arabia; also called Sheba

SALMACIS Water-nymph who was intent on seducing Hermaphroditus; the spring named for her in Caria, in Asia Minor, was said to make men effeminate

SARDIS Ancient capital of Lydia, near the Pactolus River

SATURN Son of Heaven and Earth, and father of Jupiter, Neptune, Pluto, Juno, Ceres, and Vesta; he was dethroned by his three sons, who divided his kingdom among them

SCYTHIA Country north of the Black Sea

SEMELE Daughter of Cadmus and Harmonia, and mother, by Jupiter, of Bacchus

SICYON City in the Peloponnese

SILENUS A satyr (forest god, part man, part goat) and the foster father of Bacchus

SPARTA (Also Lacedaemon) City in the southern Peloponnese

SPERCHIUS River in Thessaly

STYMPHALUS Region in northeastern Arcadia, and the name of a town, mountain, and lake there; as one of his twelve labors, Hercules rid the area of fowl birds

STYX River of the underworld; the gods swore by its name to guarantee their oaths

TAGUS Gold-bearing river in Hispania (Spain and Portugal)

TANAIS (1) The river Don, in Scythia, often regarded as the boundary between Europe and Asia; (2) a city near the mouth of the river

TANTALUS King of Phrygia; son of Jupiter, and father of Niobe

TAURUS Mountain range in Asia Minor

TEREUS King in Thrace; husband of Procne, brother-in-law of Philomela, and father of Itys

TETHYS Sea-goddess; a Titan, daughter of Earth and Heaven; wife of Oceanus, mother of Clymene, Achelous, and Doris, among many others, and grandmother of Phaethon

THEBES Capital of Boeotia; founded by Cadmus, who was led to the site by a sacred heifer and told by Athena to sow the teeth of a dragon, from which warriors sprang out of the ground; its walls were built by the magic of Amphion's lyre; later kings included Pentheus and Oedipus

THERMODON River in Pontus, a country in Asia Minor on the southern shores of the Black Sea; the Amazons dwelt near it

THESSALY District in northeastern Greece, the dwelling place of the centaurs

THETIS A Nereid, daughter of Nereus and Doris; wife of Peleus, and mother of Achilles

THUNDERER Epithet of Jupiter

THRACE Country in the Balkans, northeast of Macedonia; Thracians were considered primitive and warlike by the Greeks

TIRESIAS Theban seer who prophesied the fates of Pentheus and Narcissus; father of Manto

TIRYNS Ancient city in Argolis, birthplace of Hercules and his mother, Alcmene; thus Tiryntian (from Tiryns) refers to Hercules or Alcmene

TITANS Twelve divine children of Earth and Heaven; their offspring became the Olympian gods (Jupiter, Juno, etc.) and lesser gods

TMOLUS Mountain in Lydia, in Asia Minor, and its god

TRITON Sea-god, half-man, half-fish; a son of Neptune, he blew his horn at his father's bidding

TROY City in northwestern Asia Minor; site of the ten-year-long Trojan War, which culminated in its destruction

TYPHOEUS Another name for Typhon

TYPHON Giant who challenged the Olympian gods; for his hubris

he was buried beneath Sicily; sometimes said to have one hundred hands

TYRE City on the coast of Phoenicia (Syria) known for its "purple" or crimson dye, produced from a mollusk

VENUS (Greek: Aphrodite) Goddess of love; wife of Vulcan and mother of Cupid; she contrived to inspire gods and mortals alike with love

VULCAN (Greek: Hephaestus) God of fire; husband of Venus; as blacksmith to the gods, he forged thunderbolts for Jupiter

XANTHUS (Also called Scamander) River near Troy, in northwest Asia Minor

ZEPHYR West wind

ZEUS Greek name for Jupiter