

**Class Notes**  
**9/16**

Passages:

Pg. 68, part B

-absolute power, foreshadowing of xerxes behavior

Pg. 69

-darius wins and becomes ruler

Pg. 130

-xerxes merciless to man with 5 sons

Pg. 130

-multiple interpretations of eclipse

Pg. 143, part c

-“manly issue” w/ or w/o son

Pg. 131 D

-xerxes lack of mercy for human life

Pg. 137, part d

-oracle, historical/fictitious roles

Pg. 120 A

-xerxes is given the name god

Pg. 151 A

-xerxes stakes a head when its against Persian culture to do so.

Pg. 149 a-d

-# of arrows, heroism of Spartans

**Class Convo:**

Oracle- historical event—oracle doesn't know whats going to happen.

Is this a myth (the oracle) in the war?—suggestions: the oracle has always been famed for knowing.

-she says vague futures that are obviously coming true

-sometimes a random woman would act out the oracles character and give the obvious furtures

-Transition of spoken memory and written memory.

-oracle was favored by govnt and paid by royals.

Killing of 5<sup>th</sup> son, pg 130- war is more important than family

-arrogant of xerxes

-herodotus is biased towards greeks, gives xerxes a terrible depiction

-sons used as punishment.

Literary methods, pg 158

-lack of history is mixed with fictitious stories

-gives credibility to what he does say is true.

-what is an acceptable level of ignorance to the stories?

Suggestion: It's all hearsay, he gets what he records from other ppl and tries to account for both sides.

Xerxes cuts off head, pg 151

- shows lack of cultural values
- does what he wants
- hates being stood up to
- instills fear and intimidation to all

Multiple interpretations of eclipse, pg 130

- xerxes shows mortality by showing fear
- greek=sun Persians=moon, moon eclipse the sun

Greek culture

- democratic procedure fails

Democracy vs. monarchy?

Quick and decisive decision making is unsuccessful