Critical Thinking

1. **Respond:** What questions would you like to ask Zeus? Explain.
2. **(a) What problem does Epimetheus face when it is humanity’s turn to receive a gift? (b) Contrast:** Contrast the gifts Prometheus gives humanity with the gifts Epimetheus gives the animals. **(c) Evaluate:** Which gift is most valuable? Why?
3. **(a) Which of Prometheus’ actions angers Zeus? (b) Infer:** Why does it anger him? **(c) Draw Conclusions:** How did the Greeks view Zeus? Support your answer with details from the text.
4. **(a) Analyze Cause and Effect:** What changes does Pandora bring to the world by opening the box? **(b) Connect:** How does her mistake solve the problem Prometheus caused for the gods?

**Can anyone be a hero?**
Which characters in these three myths make heroic efforts during trying circumstances? Explain their acts of heroism.

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After You Read

**Prometheus and the First People**

**Literary Analysis: Myths**

1. Using a chart like the one shown, identify which characteristics of myths are found in “Prometheus and the First People.” Support your choices by supplying examples from the text.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What the Story Explains</th>
<th>Exceptional or Fantastic Characters</th>
<th>Quest</th>
<th>Transgression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

2. **(a) What do the myths suggest about the value the ancient Greeks placed on the human power to reason? Explain. (b) In what way does the story of Pandora show that the gift of intelligence is also a curse? (c) Working from your previous answer, draw a conclusion about the ancient Greek view of humanity.

3. **(a) Why does Zeus save Deucalion and Pyrrha? (b) Draw a conclusion about ancient Greek values from their story.**