## Ancient Voices

Worksheet for Latin Classes



## Greco-Roman Gods and Goddesses, Symbols and Emblems

Select a god or goddess from the table below and on the back of this handout draw the design for a mask, incorporating into your mask design a few of your chosen character's symbols and emblems. There are many creative ways to use symbols and emblems, which add interest to a mask and help identify the character represented.

Name	Symbols and Emblems, Identifying Characteristics
ZEUS/JUPITER	All royal symbols, such as crowns and scepters, and the colors gold and purple; also, the lightning bolt (his weapon) the golden eagle and the oak tree.
HERA/JUNO	Same royal symbols as her husband, Zeus; also, the golden cuckoo, peacock, lion and cow (symbol of motherhood).
POSEIDON/ NEPTUNE	All symbols of the ocean, such as seashells and sea creatures, coral, mother-of-pearl, and the colors gray, blue and green; also, the trident (his weapon) and the horse.
HADES/PLUTO	Helmet of Darkness, which made him invisible; Cerberus, his three-headed guard dog; a two-pronged, fork-like staff or scepter; a large key; the cypress tree and the narcissus flower.
DEMETERCERES	All colors and symbols of the harvest, such as various fruit, sheaves of wheat, and all shades of green, gold and russet (reddish-brown); also, piglets (her good-luck emblem) and poppies.
HEPHAESTUS/ VULCAN	Fire, and every kind of metal, blacksmith tongs and hammer; also, the quail, a bird that does a hobbling dance in the springtime.
ATHENA/MINERVA	The owl, olive tree and the colors white and silver; also, her helmet and breastplate (emblazoned with the head of a snake-haired gorgon).
APHRODITE/VENUS	Ocean colors, scallop seashells, pearls and green-colored gemstones; also, the dove and the myrtle tree.
ARES/MARS	Wild boar and bloodstained spear, also the woodpecker and the vulture.
APOLLO	Sun and lyre (ancient musical instrument); also, bow and arrow, serpent (ancient wisdom symbol) and mouse (also wisdom symbol).
ARTEMIS/DIANA	New moon, bow and arrow and she-bear (the most dangerous wild animal in ancient Greece).
HERMES/MERCURY	Winged helmet and sandals (symbols of his swift-thinking and swift-footedness); the caduceus, his staff with either two ribbons or two snakes twined around it; also, the crane.
DIONYSUSB/ ACCHUS	Ivy wreath, grape vines and clusters of grapes; the thyrsus, a wand made from a fennel stalk twined with ivy and topped with a pinecone; also, the tiger.
HESTIA/VESTA	Fire and hearth.