

Herodotus, *Histories* 112–120

What are Herodotus' alleged sources?

How much is autopsy, how much hearsay,
how much inference?

Is this a Helen story or some Astarte myth?
Or did Herodotus make it all up?

How did the Egyptians learn of Helen and Paris?
How do they realize Paris is lying?

How does the Egyptian story relate to Homer
and the (non-Homeric epic) *Cypria*?

Gagarin on Sophists and Persuasion

What is Gagarin's thesis?

What is the role of pleasure in literature?
in education? in persuasion? in court?

Are sophists' own products necessarily indicative of their teachings? Can we distinguish exoteric from esoteric teachings in any Greek philosophy?

How do Gagarin's sophists use Trojan stories?

Gorgias, *Encomium of Helen*

Work together to develop an outline of Gorgias' *Encomium*. What are his arguments, how does he prove them, and how do they hang together?

Are the arguments credible? Did they sway you? Does Gorgias expect you to distrust him?

What are the roles of persuasion and pleasure in this speech? Are pickup lines really magic?

The object of paradoxical encomium is not its true subject. What does Gorgias actually praise?

Gorgias, *Defense of Palamedes*

Work together to develop an outline of Gorgias' *Defense*. What are his arguments, how does he prove them, and how do they hang together?

Are the arguments credible? Did they sway you?
Does Gorgias expect you to distrust him?

Does it affect your reading to know that Palamedes was framed and unjustly convicted?

Seneca, *Suasoria* 3

Are these arguments persuasive?

Does Gagarin's thesis apply to these too?

How does Fuscus connect Iphigenia with Helen?

Summarize the arguments for and against sacrificing Iphigenia.