



2003

Civilization Sequence 110

FINAL INTERPRETATION EXERCISE

A.U.B. Bliss 205

S. Khoury June, 9, 2003

Answer ONE (1) question ONLY:

I. MYTH=SCIENCE?

- 1. Select two (2) natural phenomena (e.g. earthquake, seasons, rain, day and night, or any other) and analyze the explanations offered in the relevant two myths.
2. Are these explanations consistent and logical within the framework of the myth? Explain.
3. Are these explanations "scientific"? Give Stephen Hawking's point of view.
4. Conclude and state your OWN opinion.

OR II: WOMAN

- 1. Analyze the role and function of "woman" in EFIK. (you may like to include the goddess also).
2. Compare critically with the role and function of "woman" in the second version of creation in GENESIS.
3. What are the implications for man/woman relationship in each case, and for their relation with the creator?
4. Evaluate the consequences, with reflections on our human condition.

OR III: REVENGE

- 1. Analyze the reason and the motive for revenge in two (2) myths (why and what for).
2. Does it serve a purpose? Explain.
3. Evaluate and state your own opinion on the "values" defended and/or the "change" effected.



OR IV: DEATH

1. Analyze the concept of death in two (2) myths, with particular emphasis on its origin, nature, role and function, relationship with creator.
2. Identify the time of "creation" or "appearance" of death. Relate with the aim or purpose of this creation/appearance.
3. Conclude and state your opinion.

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OR V: "Cultures are Many, Man is One". (Ruth Benedict)

1. Explain the above quotation.
- a. On the basis of C.S. 110 readings, do you agree or disagree, why? (quote at least two concrete references to justify your answer.)
2. Evaluate this "cultural diversity" and state your opinion.

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Bonus Question

(You may choose NOT to answer this question)

"What is the nature of the universe? What is our place in it and where did it and we come from? Why is it the way it is"? (Stephen W. Hawking)

1. Respond to these questions from the point of view of the most convincing text we read this semester. Indicate clearly what guided your choice of the particular myth.
2. If you think all the myths we read are not convincing, then "create" (or select) a more appropriate picture of the universe. Justify your choice.

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GOOD LUCK!