“PERSEPHONE” MYTH ANALYSIS

Directions: Now that you have read “Persephone,” respond to the following questions in writing.

1. Literal: Why does Hades kidnap Persephone? How does Demeter react to her daughter’s disappearance? Why does Zeus send gods and goddesses to plead with Demeter? How does Demeter learn where her daughter is? Why must Persephone return to the underworld each year?

2. Analyzing: Describe Persephone’s reaction to her new home. Give three or four examples of the gods and goddesses showing “human” emotions. What yearly occurrence does this myth explain?

3. Extending: Name at least one other aspect of nature that might be explained by the strong emotions of a god or goddess.