

## Lesson 6

### Hera

Q: What origins did the story of Hera and Io explain?



#### Hera and Io

Zeus sneaked down to earth to be with a mortal woman named Io.

A thundercloud blocked Hera's view, so she rushed down to look.

Zeus quickly turned Io into a cow.

Why?

to hide his unfaithfulness

from Hera



Hera asked for the cow, tied it to a tree and sent Argus to watch it.

## 2.

## Argus and Hermes



Argus had 100 eyes,

half of which never closed.

Argus had also killed Echidna.

Zeus sent his son Hermes to play

his shepherd's pipes for Argus.

Finally, Hermes bored Argus to sleep and beheaded him.









3.

Io flees.

Hermes freed the cow, but Hera sent a gadfly

to chase her all the way to Egypt.

where the Egyptians worshiped her. Hera then let Zeus

make Io human again, as long as Zeus

never looked at Io again.





What did Hera do with Argus' eyes?

She put them on peacock feathers.



**What I've learned:** The story explains

why peacock feathers have "eyes,"

why Egyptians worshiped cows,

and how the Ionian Sea got its name.