Heroes/Gods Comparison Contrast Essay

[Name of the Writer]

[Name of the Institution]

**Compare and Contrast**

The gods can be supportive and they can be generous. On the other hand, they can also be devastating and destructive for a group of people. Heroes need to show respect towards the forces above them that cannot be controlled. The Greek gods and goddesses carry many human like attributes. They are very similar to humans in the way that they have weaknesses and strengths. Although the gods exhibit their characteristics far more dramatically than humans, the similarities are clear. The Greek gods’ characteristics are similar to humans, such as revenge, jealousy and love. The gods rule over nature, justice and destiny, and must be acknowledged and worshiped for the mighty beings that they are. Apart from one's actions, thoughts and intentions, in Greek mythology, the gods have the ultimate power and final decision of justice over nature, mortals and even among themselves. The word “Hero” strikes a universal chord that makes us think of extraordinary and spectacular stories or acts which go far beyond any common endeavor. The birth of these heroes is important in Greek and many other cultures. The birth of heroes separates them, often even before birth, from ordinary mortals in Greek mythology. In Greek mythology, heroes are services of religious figures. While people would fight for their lover and not give up, Gods like Atlanta wanted someone better. Every man who wanted her had to fight her to get her love. Men would fight each other to get a wife, and people would race against each other to win just like gods. These are the things that happen every day between gods and humans and that makes them so similar1.

Joseph Campbell writes about the heroes that they can wander in the supernatural region from the ordinary world. The hero has qualities that are very similar to the Greek Gods. Most of the heroes are taken out of the ordinary world into a new or special world. The hero is always presented with a challenge and problem to undertake. The hero's goal is to get the lover, to take revenge because of jealousy, etc. Similarly, Hercules’ (son of the Greek god, Zeus) stepmother, Hera was incredibly jealous and despised Hercules alot. She enchanted him, which eventually led him to accidentally kill his own family. Fear is not only experienced by heroes but Greek gods also have fears. They feared Jupiter / Zeus, the head of the Society of the Gods and the wrath of Hera, Jupiter's wife. The most common thing in mythology is the relationship between hero and mentor. In the adventure, a hero has many powerful qualities just like Greek gods, but at some point, they always need a mentor that can guide them or give them advice. Another magical quality of the hero is that he can be born again after death. Greek gods, however, cannot be killed but if they die, they lose their physical appearance and fade away2.

Joseph Campbell in his book depicts the qualities of a hero. He uses mythology to write his story successfully. Campbell studied mythological and literary classics, including the stories of Osiris, Prometheus, Buddha, Moses, Muhammad, and Jesus. Many myths appear to be linked with the outline of Campbell's mono myths, there are certain differences in the presence and order of some levels. The book quotes the resemblances of the stories and links to them as the author breaks down the structure of the mono-myth. Campbell explores the theory that mythological narratives often have a fundamental arrangement. The comparisons of these myths led Campbell to write his book describing the arrangement of the mono-myth. He shows the hero in his book who has got powers similar to the Greek Gods.

**References**

1. Ancient Egyptian Legends: VIII: The Battles of Horus. https://www.sacred-texts.com/egy/ael/ael11.htm. Accessed October 28, 2019.

2. PROMETHEUS - Greek Titan God of Forethought, Creator of Mankind. https://www.theoi.com/Titan/TitanPrometheus.html. Accessed October 28, 2019.