**(GROUP 4 , F1)**

IN BRIEF:

In [Greek mythology](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_mythology), the **Titans** were powerful [deities](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deities), descendants of [Gaia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaia_(mythology)) (Earth) and [Uranus](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uranus_(mythology)) (Sky), that ruled during the legendary [Golden Age](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Golden_Age). They were [immortal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Immortality) beings of incredible strength and were also the first [pantheon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pantheon_(gods)) of Greek gods and goddesses.

The Titans, also known as the elder gods, ruled the earth before the [Olympians](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/olympian.html#Olympians) overthrew them. The ruler of the Titans was [Cronus](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/titan.html#Cronus) who was de-throned by his son [Zeus](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/olympian.html#Zeus). Most of the Titans fought with Cronus against Zeus and were punished by being banished to [Tartarus](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/primordial.html#Tartarus). During their rule the Titans were associated with the various [planets](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/titanPlanet.html).

Rhea was the wife of [Cronus](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/titan.html#Cronus). Cronus made it a practice to swallow their children. To avoid this, Rhea tricked Cronus into swallowing a rock, saving her son [Zeus](http://edweb.sdsu.edu/people/bdodge/scaffold/gg/olympian.html#Zeus).

*Creation of the World*

IN DETAIL:

In the begining there was only chaos. Then out of the void appeared Erebus, the unknowable place where death dwells, and Night. All else was empty, silent, endless, darkness. Then somehow Love was born bringing a start of order. From Love came Light and Day. Once there was Light and Day, Gaea, the earth appeared.

Gaea alone gave birth to Uranus, the heavens. Uranus became Gaea's mate covering her on all sides. Together they produced the three Cyclopes, the three Hecatoncheires, and twelve Titans.

However, Uranus was a bad father and husband. He hated the Hecatoncheires. He imprisoned them by pushing them into the hidden places of the earth, Gaea's womb. This angered Gaea and she plotted against Uranus. She tried to get her children to attack Uranus. All were too afraid except, the youngest Titan, Cronus.

Gaea and Cronus (one of her sons) set up a trap for Uranus as he lay with Gaea at night. Cronus grabed his father and castrated him. As he departed he promised that Cronus and the Titans would be punished.

Cronus (youngest Titan) became the next ruler. He imprisoned the Cyclopes and the Hecatoncheires (his brothers) in Tartarus.

He married his sister Rhea, under his rule the Titans had many offspring. He ruled for many ages. However, Gaea and Uranus both had prophesied that he would be overthrown by a son. To avoid this Cronus swallowed each of his children as they were born. Rhea (his wife) was angry at the treatment of the children and plotted against Cronus. When it came time to give birth to her sixth child, Rhea hid herself, then she left the child to be raised by nymphs. To conceal her act she wrapped a stone in swaddling cloths and passed it off as the baby to Cronus, who swallowed it.

This child was Zeus. He grew into a handsome youth on Crete. He consulted Metis on how to defeat Cronus. She prepared a drink for Cronus to make him vomit up the other children. Rhea convinced Cronus to accept his son and Zeus was allowed to return to Mount Olympus as Cronus's cupbearer. This gave Zeus the opportunity to give Cronus the specially prepared drink. This worked as planned and the other five children were vomited up. Being gods they were unharmed. They were thankful to Zeus and made him their leader.

Cronus was yet to be defeated. He and the Titans, (except Prometheus, Epimetheus, and Oceanus), fought to retain their power. However, Zeus was cunning. He went down to Tartarus and freed the Cyclopes and the Hecatoncheires. Prometheus joined Zeus as well.

Eventually, Zeus won and exiled the Titans who had fought against him into Tartarus. Except for Atlas, who received the special punishment of holding the world on his shoulders.

**IN FEWER WORDS/ THE STORY SCHEMATICALLY**

**A. Gaea + Uranus→ Children: 3 Cyclops,**

**3 Hecatoncheires & 12 Titans**

**B. Uranus→ imprisoned the Hecatoncheire**s (his children)

**C. Cronus (their child and the youngest Titan)→** castrated his father Uranus with his mother consent

D. **Cronus (became a ruler and** imprisoned **the Cyclopes and the Hecatoncheires (his brothers)**  in **Tartarus**

**E. Cronus married Rhea**

**F. Cronus swallowed each of his children** as they were born (as he was afraid that one of his children would take his throne)

**G. Rhea→angry / managed to save her 6th child Zeus**

**H. Later Zeus was allowed to return to Mount Olympus as Cronus's cupbearer**

**I. Zeus** →gave his father a drink and vomitted his sons

**J. Cronus** **and the Titans**, fought to retain their power.

**K**. **Zeus was cunning→** He went down to Tartarus and **freed the Cyclopes and the Hecatoncheires**.

L. **Zeus→ won/ became the king of Gods/, sent the Titans to Tartarus**