

Herodotus -Father of History

by Joseph Epstein

Herodotus (ca. 484-425 B.C.) was a Carian, born in Halicarnassus in Asia Minor, in what would now be western Turkey. *He* was, in other words, from the periphery of the Greek world, and *his book* is the result of a sort of intellectual tourism. *He* travelled, collected stories, consulted documents *where they* existed, and wrote down *his findings*. No one knows for certain whether *he* visited all the countries *he* wrote about or how *he* came into *his* extensive knowledge. In the opening sentence of the *Histories*, *he* states *his purpose*:

"Herodotus, from Halicarnassus, here displays his enquiries, that human achievement may be spared the ravages of time, and that everything great and astounding, and all the glory of those exploits which served to display Greeks and barbarians alike to such effect, be kept alive—and additionally, and most importantly, to give the reason they went to war".

Cicero called Herodotus the "father of history." Yet Arnaldo Momigliano, the great 20th-century historiographer of the ancient world, ends *his brilliant essay* on Herodotus by noting, "*It is a strange truth that Herodotus has really become the father of history only in modern times.*" History, or, more precisely, historical methods, Momigliano explains, finally caught up with Herodotus. Ethnographic research brought a new respect for Herodotus' own early interest in ethnography. *Those who* did archaeological exploration in Egypt and Mesopotamia found Herodotus' writings on *these subjects* useful. *His writings* also became valuable to biblical scholars in *their study* of Oriental history. Oral history, on *which he* drew heavily, became a standard tool of modern social science and history. Herodotus was also the first serious historian to give *due attention* to women. In *his Histories*, *he* devotes several pages to Artemisia, the queen of Halicarnassus, *who* commanded the Asian Dorian fleet during Xerxes' attack on Greece. As for *his accuracy*, Momigliano writes, "We have now collected enough evidence to be able to say that *he* can be trusted."

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Joseph Epstein (born January 9, 1937) is an essayist, short-story writer, and editor. From 1974 to 1998 he was the editor of the magazine *The American Scholar*, the magazine of the Phi Beta Kappa society, and wrote for it under the pseudonym "Aristides". From 1974 to 2002, Epstein was a visiting adjunct lecturer in literature and writing at Northwestern University.

Lee el texto para indicar la referencia de los pronombres solicitados.

- 1) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *they* en línea 6?
 - a. words
 - b. stories
 - c. documents

- 2) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *he* en línea 8?
 - a. Herodotus
 - b. Momigliano
 - c. Cicero

- 3) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *his* en línea 16?
 - a. Herodotus
 - b. Momigliano
 - c. Cicero

- 4) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *it* en línea 17?
 - a. No tiene referencia. Se trata de un ANTICIPATORY IT.
 - b. historiographer
 - c. world

- 5) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *which* en línea 23?
 - a. Archaeological exploration
 - b. Modern social science
 - c. Oral history

- 6) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *who* en línea 25?
 - a. Artemisia (the queen of Halicarnasus)
 - b. The Asian Dorian fleet
 - c. Greece

- 7) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *he* en línea 31?
 - a. Herodotus
 - b. Momigliano
 - c. Joseph Epstein

- 8) ¿Cuál es la referencia del pronombre *it* en línea 33?
 - a. No tiene referencia. Se trata de un ANTICIPATORY IT.
 - b. *The American Scholar*
 - c. Aristides