



Book 7: Suggestions for Further Study

Further Reading

Asheri, David et al: introduction to *A Commentary on Herodotus Books I-IV* (OUP, 2007)

Bowie, AM: introduction to *Herodotus Histories Book VIII* (Cambridge Greek and Latin Classics, 2007)

Gould, John: *Herodotus*: (Bloomsbury, 2000)

Marincola, John: *Greek Historians* (Greece and Rome New Surveys in the Classics No. 31, CUP, 2008)

de Selincourt, Aubrey: *The World of Herodotus* (North Point Press, 1982)

de Ste Croix, GEM: *Herodotus: Greece and Rome* Vol 24, No 2 (Oct 1977)

Usher, Stephen: *The Historians of Greece and Rome* (Hamilton, 1969)

Some Ideas to Think About

Herodotus' value as an historian

How should we judge him? What did other writers in the ancient world think about him? Is it fair to use the standards of our own time to evaluate him?

Herodotus' stylistic techniques

How does he present his narrative? What is his choice of details or events influenced by?
How should we regard the speeches?

Herodotus' world view

How does Herodotus think the world works? What are his views on religion, magic and fate?
Is his view like that of other authors of his time?

Xerxes

How is he represented by Herodotus? How do we think Herodotus could claim to know anything about his character? Is he a three-dimensional character or a cardboard cut-out of a villainous despot?