

Year 4 Assessment: Myths and Legends

Learning objective: To identify key features of myths and legends and explore how they explain the world through storytelling.

Read the passage carefully and answer the questions below. Ensure you use full sentences where required. Write clearly and check your spelling and punctuation.

Long ago, before maps were drawn or science had all the answers, people told stories to explain the world. Myths were told to explain natural events, such as why the sun rises or how the mountains were formed. These stories often featured powerful beings with special abilities. Legends, however, were stories about famous people from the past. While a legend might be based on a real person, the story often grew more exciting as it was told by many different people over hundreds of years. Both myths and legends are important because they tell us what the people of the past valued, such as courage, kindness, and cleverness.

Word bank: hero · legend · myth · supernatural · quest · origin · bravery · villain

1. According to the passage, what is the main purpose of a myth? (2 marks)

2. How does a legend differ from a myth? Use evidence from the text. (3 marks)

3. List two qualities that were valued by people who told myths and legends. (2 marks)

4. Pip the bookworm caterpillar says, 'Legends are just history books.' Explain why you agree or disagree with Pip, using what you have learnt about legends. (4 marks)

5. If you were to create a myth to explain why the ocean is salty, what would your 'supernatural' cause be? Write a short paragraph (3-4 sentences) describing your idea. (4 marks)

6. Extended Writing: Imagine you are a legendary hero. Write a short story (approx. 80-100 words) about a quest you go on to help your village. Include a clear beginning, middle, and end, and use at least two adjectives to describe your setting. (10 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from a legend featuring a brave hero facing a magical challenge. Make sure to include an environment that looks like it belongs in a story from the past.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Write a definition for a new myth that explains why owls like Nova are so wise.