

Exploring Myths and Legends with Ellie the Elephant

Learning objective: To identify and define the key features of myths and legends, and understand the cultural significance of these traditional stories.

Read the front of each flashcard to test your knowledge of storytelling terms. Use Ellie the Elephant's expertise to recall how myths and legends differ from ordinary tales.

What is a Myth?

A traditional story, often concerning the early history of a people or explaining a natural phenomenon, typically involving gods or supernatural beings.

What is a Legend?

A story from the past that is believed to be based on real people or events, but which has been exaggerated over time.

What is 'Oral Tradition'?

The process of passing stories, history, and customs from one generation to the next by word of mouth rather than by writing.

Define 'Supernatural'.

Things that cannot be explained by science or nature, such as magic, spirits, or divine powers.

What is a 'Protagonist'?

The leading character or one of the major characters in a story or drama.

What is a 'Mythical Creature'?

An imaginary animal or being, often found in folklore, such as a dragon, griffin, or phoenix.

What is a 'Heroic' trait?

Characteristics shown by a character, such as extreme courage, strength, or nobility when facing a great challenge.

What is the purpose of an 'Origin Story'?

A narrative that explains the beginning of something, such as how the world was created or why a bird has colourful feathers.

What is 'Folklore'?

The traditional beliefs, customs, and stories of a community, passed through the people of that area.

Explain 'Legacy' in storytelling.

Something handed down from the past, often the lasting impact or lesson of a hero's life.

How does a myth differ from a legend?

Myths often explain nature or the gods, whereas legends are usually rooted in real human history and historical figures.

What is 'Narrative Structure'?

The framework that tells a story, including the beginning, the build-up of tension, the climax, and the resolution.