

Legends of the Lost Lands: Myths and Heroic Quests

Learning objective: To analyse the structural features of myths and legends, and apply this knowledge to create an original heroic narrative.

Read each task carefully. Use your knowledge of mythical tropes—such as heroic quests, magical creatures, and moral lessons—to answer the questions. Use your best handwriting and ensure you use adventurous vocabulary.

N/A - This task focuses on the application of structural knowledge of the genre.

Word bank: legendary · supernatural · heroic · courageous · enchantment · treacherous · mythical · triumph · deception · quest

1. Myths often feature a 'Call to Adventure'. Explain why a protagonist might feel compelled to leave their home to face a dangerous challenge. Provide an example of a potential motivation. (2 marks)

2. Compare and contrast a 'Myth' and a 'Legend'. What is the primary difference in how these stories are traditionally rooted in history versus supernatural explanation? (2 marks)

3. Max the monkey is writing a legend about a hidden forest of gold. He wants to include a 'supernatural helper' who provides the hero with an object. Suggest an original object and explain why it might be considered magical. (2 marks)

4. Justify your answer: Why do you think ancient civilisations used myths to explain natural phenomena, such as thunder or the changing of the seasons, rather than scientific observations? (3 marks)

5. What might happen if the hero of a legend failed to complete their quest? Describe the potential consequences for their village or kingdom using descriptive language. (2 marks)

6. Identify one common moral lesson found in legends. Explain how a hero's actions demonstrate this lesson to the reader. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene from your own original legend. Include your hero, a mythical beast you have invented, and one magical item that helps the hero on their journey.



Extension challenge: Write a short 'prologue' (the beginning) of a new legend. Your introduction must include: a setting that sounds mysterious, a hero with a specific flaw, and a 'Call to Adventure' that arrives in an unexpected way.