

Grade 4 ELA Assessment: Myths and Legends

Learning objective: To demonstrate understanding of the features, structure, and language of myths and legends.

Read the passage carefully and answer all questions. Use your best handwriting and check your spelling and punctuation.

Long ago, before the maps were finished, a brave explorer named Elara set out to find the Whispering Peak. It was said that the mountain held a star-stone, a relic from the time when the sky touched the earth. Elara did not travel alone; she carried a compass forged by her ancestors. Along her journey, she encountered a stone giant who blocked the path. Instead of fighting, Elara shared her stories of the lowlands. The giant, moved by her kindness, stepped aside and carved a bridge into the rock. Elara finally reached the summit, not by strength of sword, but by the power of her words and her steady heart.

Word bank: heroic · supernatural · legend · myth · protagonist · quest · mythical creature · tradition

1. Identify two characteristics of a legend present in the story of Elara. Give evidence from the text. (2 marks)

2. How does the author portray Elara as a non-traditional hero? Explain your reasoning. (2 marks)

3. What is the primary difference between a myth and a legend? Write a definition for each. (4 marks)

4. Why do you think the author chose to include the stone giant in this story? What purpose does this character serve? (3 marks)

5. Look at the phrase 'the sky touched the earth'. What language technique is being used here, and what effect does it have on the reader? (3 marks)

6. Write a short myth explaining how a natural feature (like a mountain, a river, or a forest) was created. Your story must include a hero, a challenge, and a supernatural element. Focus on your use of descriptive adjectives and powerful verbs. (8 marks)

Draw: Draw a scene depicting the stone giant from the story, ensuring you include details that show he is a part of the mountain landscape.



Extension challenge: Total: /25. Challenge: Research a local legend from your own town or county. Briefly explain how it differs from the story of Elara.