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Mythology
Reading Quiz Chapter 1

- _____ 1. Our term "Myth" derives from the Greek word "mythos" which means: (a) gods (b) story (c) fiction (d) adventure
- _____ 2. A general definition of "legend" or "saga" could be: (a) a story that concerns the gods (b) a story that concerns the heroic acts of humans (c) a story that explains the modern world (d) a "fairy tale"
- _____ 3. True or False: Myths, sagas and folktales may all be used to convey moral wisdom.
- _____ 4. True or False: Myths are intimately involved in the religions of a culture.
- _____ 5. True or False: Folktales relate mythic events to specific times, places, and often local heroes.
- _____ 6. Which does the etiological function of myth NOT concern: (a) the use of myths to explain customs or practices in the modern world (b) explanations of the natural world (c) the genealogy of the gods (d) the reasons for religious rituals
- _____ 7. "aitia" means: (a) origin (b) reason (c) story (d) ritual
- _____ 8. An allegorical use of myth would (a) describe events in human history that could have led to myths concerning supernatural elements (b) focus on a moral point (c) interpret a myth in terms of universal truths (d) explain myths in terms of natural or meteorological events
- _____ 9. Which is NOT an element of Sigmund Freud's psychological approach to myth: (a) myths reflect unchanging natural laws (b) myths function for a culture in the ways that dreams function for individuals (c) myths can explain psychosexual elements such as the young boy's sexual jealousy of his father (d) myths are one aspect of the unconscious mind.
- _____ 10. Which of the following is NOT true of archetypes, as Carl Jung defined them: (a) they explain the similarities that may be seen in many hero stories (b) they are developed over thousands of years (c) they arise from the collective unconscious (d) they are primarily found in social rituals
- _____ 11. Bronislaw Malinowski's theory of myth as "social charter" is that it (a) explains a society's customs and practices (b) reflects the stages of an individual's development (c) explains events from the natural world (d) has similar elements throughout all societies

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- _____ 12. True or false: in Levi-Strauss's structuralist approach to myth, all versions of a particular myth may be equally valid
- _____ 13. Which of the following is NOT an element of the "binary" aspect of myths in Levi-Strauss's view: (a) it reflects the basic binary structure of the human mind (b) it arises from religious rituals (c) it includes oppositions such as male/female, raw/cooked, and nature/culture (d) myths focus on the conflict and resolution of significant binary oppositions
- _____ 14. Who is responsible for analyzing myths into 31 different motifs? (a) Walter Burkert (b) Joseph Campbell (c) Claude Lévi-Strauss (d) Vladimir Propp
- _____ 15. Term for an interpretation of myth that rationalizes it by claiming that the gods were originally powerful men: (a) allegory (b) Euhemerism (c) psychoanalysis (d) structuralism
- _____ 16. In the psychoanalytic approach to myth, what is the anima? (a) the life force in each human being (b) the archetypal concept of the female in the male (c) the intellectual force in each human being (d) the wild and untamed aspect of men who live under social constraints
- _____ 17. Which is NOT true of the theme of rape in Greek mythology? (a) it is seen as a consequence of blinding passion (b) it shows the inevitable punishment of the rapist, usually by the woman's family (c) men can also be the victims of sexual violence in these tales (d) rape/abduction tales can have many different versions when told by different ancient authors
- _____ 18. Which is NOT true of women in ancient Greece: (a) women (other than slaves) were considered citizens of their communities, although they could not vote (b) it was forbidden to teach women to read or write (c) women were vitally important in religious rituals (d) women were educated in household management, child care, and/or other aspects that would be important to their lives as adults