

Mythology
Reading Quiz M&L 17

- _____ 1. A legend or saga is: (a) a mythological story that has some basis in history (b) a romanticized version of a traditional myth (c) a story that is told in widely different versions in a single society (d) a story that has crossed over from a primary society into others, whether with small or substantial changes
- _____ 2. Which of the following is NOT an element of the foundation story of Thebes: (a) Europa was abducted by a bull (b) Europa was persecuted by Hera until she finally found rest in Egypt (c) Cadmus consulted the Delphic oracle about how to find his sister (d) the oracle told him to found a city where a certain cow came to rest
- _____ 3. Which is NOT an element of the story of the Spartoi: (a) they were grown from dragon's teeth (b) they were the new followers Cadmus needed because Ares' serpent had killed his own men (c) the Spartoi had to defeat the hostile forces sent after Cadmus by Ares (d) the Spartoi became the ancestors of the leading families in Thebes
- _____ 4. The fate of Cadmus and Harmonia was (a) they committed suicide after losing their children because of Dionysus (b) Cadmus died in exile, but Harmonia was brought to Mount Olympus where she married Herakles (c) they were both turned into serpents in their old age (d) after Harmonia's death, Cadmus left Thebes to wander with the followers of Dionysus
- _____ 5. Laius was fated to be killed by his own son because : (a) he had violated the laws of hospitality and kidnapped the son of his host (b) he had murdered his regent in order to become king of Thebes (c) he committed incest in marrying Jocasta (d) he had refused hospitality to a disguised Zeus
- _____ 6. After consulting the oracle at Delphi, Oedipus decided to stay away from Corinth because: (a) he had been warned that his return would bring a plague on the city (b) he believed that the king and queen of Corinth were his real parents and he wanted to avoid them (c) he understood that there was no way to avoid the pronouncements of the oracle (d) he now knew he would not be king of Corinth, and decided to seek his fortune elsewhere
- _____ 7. Which is NOT one of the ten most frequent motifs in heroic saga? (a) the hero has an extraordinary birth (b) the hero is helped by a divine or human ally (c) his enemies usually instigate his achievement (d) at the end of his life, the hero ascends to heaven
- _____ 8. What is *arete*? (a) excellence (b) piety (c) temperance (d) suffering
- _____ 9. Who wrote the tragedy "Seven against Thebes"? (a) Aeschylus (b) Euripides (c) Hesiod (d) Sophocles

- _____ 10. Greek saga concerns cities and regions that were important in what historical period? (a) the late bronze age, from 1600-1100 BCE (b) the Archaic age, from 750-479 BCE (c) the Classical period, from 480-404 BCE (d) the Hellenistic period, from 323-147 BCE
- _____ 11. The name "Oedipus" means: (a) big head (b) many-footed (c) riddle-man (d) swellfoot
- _____ 12. In what place was the exiled Oedipus promised a respite from his sorrows? (a) Colonus (b) Corinth (c) Mycenae (d) Thebes
- _____ 13. For what treasonous act was Antigone condemned? (a) she refused to marry Creon's son Haemon (b) she refused to obey the prophet Tiresias (c) she buried her brother Polynices (d) she refused to pray for the defeat of Polynices when he attacked Thebes
- _____ 14. Which of the following is NOT true of Tiresias? (a) after his death, he lost the gift of prophecy (b) he was blinded by Juno (Hera) for taking Zeus's side in a quarrel (c) he was the advisor to three kings of Thebes, none of whom listened to him (at first) (d) he had lived as both a man and a woman
- _____ 15. Amphion and Zethus tied Dirce to the horns of a bull because (a) she had falsely claimed to have had a liaison with Zeus (b) she had cursed her own father (c) she had taken payment for betraying her husband (d) she had collaborated in keeping their mother imprisoned
- _____ 16. Which of the following is still alive a week after the assault on Thebes is over? (a) Antigone (b) Creon (c) Eteocles (d) Haemon
- _____ 17. Oedipus is accompanied into exile by (a) his (unnamed) son by a slave woman (b) Jocasta (c) his two daughters (d) Tiresias
- _____ 18. What happened to the Seven Against Thebes? (a) after Polyneices was killed, they abandoned the attack and returned home (b) all but one were killed in the attack (c) all but Eteocles came out safely, but due to Oedipus' curse, found disloyal wives when they came home (d) recognizing the injustice of their attack, they became allies of Creon
- _____ 19. Sophocles wrote his Theban plays between (a) 550-500 BCE (b) 500-450 BCE (c) 450 - 400 BCE (d) 400-350 BCE