

Create Your Own Myth

Mythology was used by early civilization in an attempt to understand the development of natural and human existence. These stories were passed to generations through oral tradition.

Part 1: Write (58 points)

_____ We have studied three different types of Mythology. Now you will have an opportunity to recreate a myth of your own. When you choose your myth (Creation, Social Order, or Porque) remember that early civilization connected elements of their own cultural values into the myth.

We will follow the writing process; drafts, editing, revisions, and a final draft to create a professional piece of writing. Enjoy writing your stories and we will NOT be typing the final copies, so WRITE LEGIBLY.

Part 2: Exchange & Rewrite (12 points)

We will simulate the role of oral tradition by exchanging papers with a classmate and rewrite that person's myth as a way of retelling it to a new generation. We will observe how these stories may evolve within the model of oral tradition and how variation plays a part in myths.

Part 3: Story Telling--Two Options (30 points)

*Option One: Perform Your Oral Tradition

When we have reached our finished products, we will simulate a "camp-side gathering" in class and tell our stories to each other. This is a form of public speaking and acting, which was a large part of the storytelling process of oral tradition. Pretend you are a storyteller in an ancient village telling this myth to others. What other props or pictures could you use to convey the story so it would stick in the minds of the viewers? Be dynamic, build suspense, humor and playfulness that engages the audience.

*Option Two: Create a Children's Storybook

You will put your myth in book format with pictures and text. Pretend you are a storyteller in an ancient village telling this myth to others. What pictures could you use to convey the story so it will stick in the minds of the viewers? When drawing your visual representation consider:

- What elements of the myth are most important to show visually?
- How will the telling of the myth be enhanced by the picture being drawn?
- Are there any elements that are better left to the imagination of the reader/listener?
- Is there a way to symbolically represent the story without actually depicting the actions and events of the story?