

NAME: _____

MYTHOLOGY and FOLKLORE



AFRICAN MYTHOLOGY

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Historical and Thematic Questions

1. What gave Western Africa a developmental edge over other parts of Africa?
2. What are the four most effective ways that a mythology will need in order to be remembered/spread?
 - (1)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
3. How did Yoruba gain the strongest foothold in a mythological sense?
4. What helped to popularize Akom/Akan mythology?

5. What religion would synchronize with Vodun?

6. What religion would eventually branch off from Vodun? What influences caused this?

7. Name several themes that are common in the various African mythologies that we covered in class. Give examples of these themes.

African Mythology Story Questions

The Value of a Person

1. Why are the members of the council meeting?
2. Briefly list the reason(s) why each body part believe it deserves the job:
The Hand:
The Eyes:
The Foot:
The Knee:
The Mouth:
The Stomach:
The Brain:
3. Who does the council originally elect for the job?
4. Why was the Buttocks on the council? Was he interested in the job? What is their reaction to his response?
5. How does the council view the Buttocks and others like him?
6. What does the council soon learn in regard to the Buttocks?
7. The story is obviously an allegory for the value of a person. Explain how this story relates to humans in general, as well as the tribal members of Western Africa.

The Serpent and The Baby Mouse

1. How does the initial relationship between the serpent and the baby mouse go?
2. How does the mother snake respond once she hears this news?
3. How does the mother mouse response once she hears this news?
4. Describe the second meeting between the serpent and the baby mouse.
5. What reminder do we have that the mother snake was similar to her child in her youth?
6. What reminder do we have that the mother mouse was similar to her child in her youth?
7. Why are both mothers pleased with their children when they leave after their lecture?
8. What is the moral/theme of the story?

The Ears Never Get Past the Head

1. What practical skills does the father teach to his sons?
2. Who would be proud of the moral way in which the father raised and counseled his sons? Why?
3. Why did the sons decide to leave their parents household?
4. Who would be proud of the way in which the sons handle their wealth and financial responsibility? Why?
5. How does Tshisuaka trick his father?
6. How does Mulumba trick his father?
7. Who has taught the sons how to trick their father? Why would he do this?
8. How does the father get “revenge” on his sons?
9. How was the father able to do this?
10. What is the moral of the story and how would it relate to the West African people of this era?

The Cheetah and the Lazy Hunter

1. Why was the hunter hungry?
2. What catches the hunter's attention?
3. What is the hunter's new method of hunting?
4. The old man who visits the mother cheetah, is probably....? What leads you to believe this?
5. How does the village/tribe handle the news of the hunter's actions? Why?
6. How does the mother cheetah help the hunter at the end of the story?
7. How does the hunter change from how he was at the beginning to how he is at the story's end?

All Stories are Anansi's

1. In the early days, why were there no stories?
2. What did people do without stories?
3. Who decides to bring stories to the people?
4. What is the cost of receiving these stories?
5. How does Anansi capture Onini?
6. How does Anansi capture Osebo?
7. How does Anansi capture Mmoboro?
8. How do the people of Earth refer to these stories?

Gods, Goddesses, Creatures, Folk Heroes and More from...

AFRICAN MYTHOLOGY

YORUBA

Supreme Being

Olorun –

Orishas

Male

Agemo –

Babalu Aye –

Dada –

Elegua –

Erinle -

Esu –

Ibeji –

Iku –

Logun Edé –

Obatala –

Ode –

Oduduwa –

Ogun –

Oko –

Oshosi –

Oshunmare –

Ossain –

Orunmila –

Shango –

Female

Aje –

Ayelala –

Oba –

Olokun -

Onile –

Oshun-

Otin –

Oya –

Yemaya –

Akom

Supreme Being

Nyankapon-Nyame-Odomankoma
Nyankapon –

Nyame –

Odomankoma –

Abosom

Male

Abo –

Anasai –

Bia –

Owuo –

Tano –

Female

Asase Afua –

Asase Yaa –

Amokye –

Bosompo –

Miscellaneous

Asamando –

Nsamanfo –

Vodun

Supreme Being

Nana Buluku -

Vodun

Mawa-Lisa

Male

Dàmballa –

Fa -

Gǔ –

Sakpatà –

Tron –

Female

Ayida Wedo –

Mami Wata -

Gbădu –

Miscellaneous

Awe –

Azě –

Bö –

Feitiço –

Zulu

Male

????????? -

Spirits and Creatures

Western

Adze -

Agbako –

Asanbosam –

Aziza -

Egbere –

Iroko-Man -

Hira -

Ninki Nanka –

Ogbanje –

Obayifo –

Obia -

Zin Kibaru –

Southern

Aigamuchab –

Llomba –

Kishi -

Nyami Nyami –

Northern

Aisha Qandicha –

Werehyenas –

Zuhri –

Central

Abada –

Eloko –

Obambo –

Eastern

Holawaka -

Mazomba -

Popobawa –

Shetani -