

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Compass of Tales: A 3rd Grade Quest Across Continents Quiz

Students decode cultural symbols, compare hero journeys, and synthesize universal themes across Norwegian folklore, Indian fables, and Mexican legends.

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**1. In the Norwegian tale 'East of the Sun and West of the Moon,' the heroine must use her courage to save a prince. This story is very similar to which other famous world story about looking past appearances?**

**Answer:** A) Beauty and the Beast

Both stories share the 'Universal Theme' of a character learning to love someone who is under a magical spell or looks different on the outside.

**2. The Panchatantra is a famous collection of animal fables from India. If a story features a clever rabbit outsmarting a lion, what is the most likely 'moral' of the story?**

**Answer:** B) Wit and wisdom are more powerful than physical force.

World fables often use small, clever animals to teach readers that thinking through a problem is better than using brute strength.

**3. In many Mexican legends, the 'Alebrijes' are brightly colored spirit guides that combine parts of different animals. Creating a story about an Alebrije requires \_\_\_\_\_, which means putting different ideas together to make something new.**

**Answer:** B) Synthesis

Synthesis is the advanced skill of combining various elements—like a dragon's wings and a cat's body—to form a complex new concept.

**4. True or False: Across many different cultures, like the Anansi stories from West Africa and Iktomi stories from the Lakota people, 'Trickster' characters are always portrayed as evil villains who want to destroy the world.**

**Answer:** B) False

Tricksters are complex; they often teach lessons through their mischief or help humans by accident or cleverness, rather than being simple villains.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**5. If you were writing a poem inspired by the Persian poet Saadi Shirazi about how all humans are part of one body, you would be focusing on a \_\_\_\_\_, which is an idea that applies to everyone regardless of where they live.**

**Answer:** A) Universal theme

Universal themes are abstract concepts like love, kindness, or unity that connect readers across different global cultures.

**6. Imagine you are comparing a story about a dragon from China (who brings rain and good luck) to a dragon from an English legend (who guards gold and breathes fire). What does this tell us about world literature?**

**Answer:** B) The same symbol can have different cultural meanings.

Critically analyzing literature involves recognizing that different cultures use the same symbols to represent very different ideas.

**7. True or False: In world literature, a 'Hero's Journey' usually involves a character leaving home, facing difficult challenges, and returning with new wisdom.**

**Answer:** A) True

The 'Hero's Journey' is a standard narrative structure found in stories from almost every culture around the globe.

**8. In the French story 'Cinderella' by Charles Perrault, a glass slipper is the key. In the Chinese story of 'Yeh-Shen,' a golden shoe is used. Why do these stories from opposite sides of the world share such similar plots?**

**Answer:** C) Human beings share similar hopes and storytelling patterns.

This demonstrates 'Cross-Cultural Connections,' where similar stories evolve independently because they touch on shared human experiences.

**9. When you read a story from a different country and try to understand the character's feelings based on their unique traditions, you are practicing \_\_\_\_\_, which helps you see the world through their eyes.**

**Answer:** C) Perspective-taking

Perspective-taking is an essential literary skill that allows readers to empathize with characters from diverse backgrounds.

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**10. True or False: World literature only includes stories that were written down in books thousands of years ago.**

**Answer:** B) False

World literature includes ancient oral traditions, modern plays, poems, and stories being created by authors all over the world today.