

Name: _____ Date: _____

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.

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?

- A. Beauty and the Beast
- B. The Gingerbread Man
- C. Humpty Dumpty
- D. The Little Engine That Could

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?

- A. Strength is the only thing that matters.
- B. Wit and wisdom are more powerful than physical force.
- C. Rabbits are faster than lions in a race.
- D. Lions should never trust small animals.

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.

- A. Subtraction
- B. Synthesis
- C. Punctuation
- D. Translation

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.

- A. True
- B. False

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.

- A. Universal theme
- B. Local weather report
- C. Specific date
- D. Rhyming couplet

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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?

- A. One culture is right and the other is wrong.
- B. The same symbol can have different cultural meanings.
- C. Dragons are real animals that live in both places.
- D. Writers from the past didn't know how to describe animals.

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.

- A. True
- B. False

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?

- A. The authors happened to be neighbors.
- B. They both copied the exact same book.
- C. Human beings share similar hopes and storytelling patterns.
- D. Shoes were the only thing people wrote about long ago.

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.

- A. Calculation
- B. Diorama
- C. Perspective-taking
- D. Speed reading

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

- A. True
- B. False