

**World Myths and Folktales: *The Stories of Human Kind***

**“Once Upon a Time: How Fairy Tales Shape Our Lives” by Jonathan Young**  
*Short-Constructed Responses*

**Question 1 Directions:** Answer the following questions in a well-written paragraph using evidence from Young’s essay.

1. In “Once Upon a Time: How Fairy Tales Shape Our Lives,” Jonathan Young states, “[Fairy tales] are clearly more than mere entertainment for children.” What, exactly, is he saying about fairy tales? How does he develop his argument throughout the essay?

**COMPLETE YOUR WORK ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER.**

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**Question 2 Directions:** Use what you’ve learned about the purpose of fairytales in Young’s essay to consider the following excerpt from “Fairytale Classics Address Modern Problems” by Charlotte Hauswell. Answer the question that follows using evidence from both Young’s essay and the excerpt.

*Even though age-old stories have been adapted for contemporary times, their core remains intact.*

*"It is the magical fairytales with the positive, didactic endings in particular which are always chosen. Naturally they always contain some element of evil. But the nice thing about fairytales is that there is a certain fairness and good wins in the end," explained Mieder.*

*The principles of good and evil can also be found in modern sagas such as Harry Potter, a phenomenon which fascinates young people and encourages them to read. It is the same scheme in different variations, the simplest principle in the world.*

*Mieder points to his favorite fairytale, "The Star Thalers," a lesser known work by the Brothers Grimm: Values such as hope and justice are communicated, and continue to resonate. But not just that. Fairytales enunciate truths about people that are timeless and transcend cultures.*

*"In fairytales, age-old problems – normal, day-to-day problems people have – are allegorized in a poetic, symbolic language. We can identify with one another across boundaries," according to the fairytale expert.*

2. How does the excerpt from Charlotte Hauswell’s article “Fairytale Classics Address Modern Problems” reflect the points made about the purpose of fairy tales in Jonathan Young's essay?

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