World Myths and Folktales: The Stories of Human Kind Unit 1 Introduction Literary Significance Myths and folktales are the world's oldest stories, passed on by word of mouth from generation to generation. Stories have always played a significant role since the dawning of humankind. Myths and folktales remain vital to modern readers because they reveal common, and that are familiar to all ages and cultures. Myths explain the; Where we came from What we believe in "myths and folktales are in some ways even 'truer' than history." -Joseph Campbell Why do you think Joseph Campbell believes that myths and folktales are "truer" than history? What is a Myth? An, or mysterious Functions of Myths: To explain the, of the world and universe. To explain the, how and why people were created, why they are flawed, why there is suffering in the world, why people must eventually die, and what happens to people after death. To explain, inches of the moon. To explain the mature of and, and how these deities and human beings interact. To explain, events.	Name:			BIOCK:	
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Myths were created out of a human need to make sense of the universe and explain how the world and its inhabitants came to be.

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Name:	Block:	Date:
The Dij	fferences Between Myths and Folktales	
•	As myths were retold and retold over generations, they transformed.	
•	One of the storytelling forms that arose from the myth was the folktale.	
What i	s a folktale?	
•	A story created by the "folk"—the	—and passed along
	from generation to generation.	
•	Folktales include,,	J
	, and	·
Functio	ons of Folktales:	
•	Folktales, unlike myths, are, or nonreligious.	
•	Folktales were created as much for their value.	ue as for the teaching of
	or values.	
•	Folktales feature more, transformations, and enchantm	nents, like myths; however, gods and
	goddesses are usually the central characters in the story.	
•	Folktale heroes tend to be, everyday folk who	don't have
	, unlike the heroes of myths, who are the	
	goddesses and human parents.	
•	Folktales are associated with religious rituals.	
	Folktales are entertaining stories about ordinary people wh	o survive by luck,
	by using their own wits, and by relying on their own natu	ıral goodness.
What's	the difference?	
•	The most important difference between a myth and a folktale concerns th	e of each
	storytelling form. Myths are a direct expression of a culture's	: folktales are
	not. However, both myths and folktales explain the important	about life.

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