World Mythology

Choose one answer per question. Circle A, B, C, or D.

1. In the Norse tales preserved in the Eddas, what kind of object is Thor’s Mjölnir?
   A. A hammer
   B. A ring
   C. A spear
   D. A ship

2. A museum label describes Horus in a common ancient Egyptian form. Which bird is associated with him in that form?
   A. Owl
   B. Heron
   C. Falcon
   D. Vulture

3. In the Babylonian Epic of Gilgamesh, who becomes Gilgamesh’s friend and travels with him to the Cedar Forest?
   A. Uta-napishtim
   B. Enkidu
   C. Humbaba
   D. Ishtar

4. In Book 10 of Homer’s Odyssey, what do Odysseus’s crew members release when they open the bag he received from Aeolus?
   A. River water
   B. Fireflies
   C. Ashes
   D. Winds

5. The Met’s scarab of Wah is shaped like a beetle. What daily event did ancient Egyptians associate with the beetle pushing its ball?
   A. The moon setting in the west
   B. The sun rising at dawn
   C. The evening appearance of Venus
   D. The yearly flooding of the Nile

6. In Gylfaginning, which creature bites off Týr’s hand when the gods refuse to release it from the binding called Gleipnir?

A. Fenrir the wolf
B. Jörmungandr the serpent
C. Sleipnir the horse
D. Níðhöggr the dragon

7. In the Babylonian epic, whose death makes Gilgamesh face his own mortality and set out to find everlasting life?

A. The king of Kish
B. Humbaba
C. Uta-napishtim
D. Enkidu

8. In Book 9 of Homer’s Odyssey, the blinded Cyclops tells his neighbors that ‘Nobody’ is harming him. Why does this disguise Odysseus’s role?

A. Odysseus told the Cyclops his name was Aeolus.
B. The Cyclops never heard Odysseus speak.
C. Odysseus previously gave Nobody as his name.
D. The Cyclops was asleep when the attack began and never woke.

9. The Met’s Book of the Dead for Imhotep presents a judgment scene. Which deity does the museum identify as presiding over the deceased’s judgment?

A. Osiris
B. Hathor
C. Khnum
D. Bes

10. In Gylfaginning, Thor uses an ox’s head as bait on a fishing trip with the giant Hymir. What does Thor hook?

A. A giant flatfish
B. A sea eagle
C. Fenrir the wolf
D. The Midgard Serpent

11. In the Babylonian epic, King Gilgamesh seeks out Uta-napishtim. Which detail explains why this meeting matters to his quest?

A. Uta-napishtim is the monster Ishtar sends against Uruk.
B. Uta-napishtim guards the entrance to the Cedar Forest.
C. Uta-napishtim survived a flood and was granted immortality.
D. Uta-napishtim is the double the gods created to challenge Gilgamesh.

12. In Book 10 of Homer’s Odyssey, why does Hermes give Odysseus the plant called moly before he visits Circe?

A. To make him fall asleep before reaching her house
B. To protect him from falling under Circe’s spell
C. To bind the winds for his homeward voyage
D. To help him remember the names of his companions

13. A visitor labels a funerary papyrus from ancient Egypt ‘a story of how its owner gained the throne.’ The papyrus instead shows the deceased owner appearing before Osiris. What revision fits the object’s purpose?

A. The scene describes making a statue for a living ruler.
B. The scene documents a real election of the owner.
C. The scene names the owner as the first emperor of Egypt.
D. The scene concerns the owner’s passage into the afterlife.

14. Two medieval sources give different details about a Norse episode. Which label would best describe the version in Snorri Sturluson’s Gylfaginning?

A. Name Snorri’s work and attribute the details to that account.
B. Treat the printed date of a modern edition as the date the story began.
C. State that the same details appear in every Norse account.
D. Attribute the account to a named Viking eyewitness without evidence.

15. Imhotep’s papyrus depicts judgment after death. The Met’s account of Gilgamesh ends with the king returning to Uruk and considering its wall after seeking immortality. How do the works address mortality differently?

A. The papyrus concerns a city wall, while the epic weighs the king’s heart before Osiris.
B. Both works end by identifying the spell that makes the main character immortal.
C. The papyrus concerns the deceased’s judgment, while the epic directs attention to the living ruler’s accomplishments.
D. Both works chiefly describe how to reach the Cedar Forest.