



Read each myth or legend carefully. Use details from the passage to answer the questions in complete sentences.

Sedna, Mother of the Sea

Long ago, in the vast, icy lands of the Arctic, lived a young Inuit woman named Sedna. She was beautiful but had a strong will, refusing to marry any hunter who came to her village.



Her father grew tired of her refusals. One day, a mysterious bird-man came, promising a rich life. Sedna's father tricked her into going with him. The bird-man took Sedna to a cold, barren island, where she lived a harsh and lonely life.

Sedna's father soon felt sad and paddled his kayak to rescue her. As they fled, the bird-man's angry friends, giant birds, stirred up a terrible storm. High waves threatened to capsize their kayak.



Terrified, Sedna's father threw her into the freezing water. Sedna desperately clung to the kayak. To make her let go, her father chopped off her fingers. Her fingers transformed into seals, whales, and fish as they fell into the deep ocean.



Sedna sank to the bottom of the ocean, becoming the powerful mother of all sea creatures. She controls the animals of the sea, and hunters must show her respect. This is why the Inuit people always honor the sea and its creatures.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS



(1) Who is the main character in this myth, and what is their role?

- (A) Sedna, a young Inuit woman who becomes the mother of sea creatures.
- (B) Sedna's father, who helps her escape the bird-man.
- (C) The bird-man, who takes Sedna to a cold island.
- (D) A hunter, who respects the sea.

(2) In this myth, Sedna's father had to _____ in order to save himself from the storm.

— continue writing on the lines below

(3) What does the word 'harsh' mean as it is used in the story?

- (A) difficult and unpleasant
- (B) soft and comfortable
- (C) bright and sunny
- (D) quiet and peaceful

(4) Why did Sedna's father throw her into the freezing water? What does this tell us about what he valued?

(5) What do you think this myth was trying to explain or teach? How does its message connect to something in real life today?



