



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

## Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

Long ago, in the grand halls of Camelot, King Arthur and his brave Knights of the Round Table celebrated Christmas. The feast was boisterous and full of cheer, but a sudden, strange visitor interrupted their joy.



A giant Green Knight, entirely green from head to toe, rode into the hall. He carried a huge axe in one hand and a holly branch in the other. He proposed a deadly game: any knight could strike him once with his axe, but in a year and a day, that knight must seek him out and receive a return blow.

Silence fell over the hall. No one dared to accept until Sir Gawain, King Arthur's loyal nephew, stepped forward. He took the axe and, with a single swing, chopped off the Green Knight's head! To everyone's astonishment, the Green Knight picked up his own head, reminded Gawain of their covenant, and rode away.



A year passed, and Sir Gawain began his perilous quest to find the Green Chapel. Along the way, he stayed at a lord's castle, where he was tested by the lord's beautiful lady. She offered him kisses, which Gawain truthfully exchanged with the lord as per their agreement. However, she also gave him a magical green sash that she claimed would protect him from harm. Fearing death, Gawain kept the sash a secret from the lord.

When Gawain finally met the Green Knight, the knight swung his axe three times. The first two swings only nicked Gawain, but the third drew a small cut. The Green Knight



then revealed himself to be the lord of the castle, testing Gawain's honesty. The small cut was for his secret of the sash, teaching Gawain a lesson in humility and the true meaning of chivalry.

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**COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS**

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

- (A) King Arthur, the wise king of Camelot
- (B) The Green Knight, a magical challenger
- (C) Sir Gawain, King Arthur's loyal nephew and a Knight of the Round Table
- (D) Lady Bertilak, who tested Sir Gawain's honesty

**(2) Sir Gawain had to travel for a year and a day to find the Green Chapel and receive a blow from the Green Knight's \_\_\_\_\_.**

*— continue writing on the lines below*

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

- (A) A magical spell or charm
- (B) A solemn agreement or pact
- (C) A loud, joyful celebration
- (D) A difficult journey or quest

**(4) Why did Sir Gawain choose to keep the magical green sash a secret from the lord of the castle? What does this tell us about the challenges of upholding chivalry?**

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**(5) What do you think this myth teaches about courage and honesty? How can its message connect to something in real life today?**

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