



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

## How Raven Placed the Stars



Long ago, when the world was new and shrouded in endless darkness, the Great Spirit had placed all the light of the stars in a special, tightly sealed box. The people walked in gloom, wishing for even a tiny sparkle in the vast, empty sky.

Raven, the clever trickster and transformer, was restless in this perpetual night. He loved to play and bring change to the world, but he grew tired of bumping into things. A powerful, selfish Chief guarded the precious box of stars, keeping them hidden away in his lodge, hoarding their beauty for himself alone.

Raven longed for the stars to brighten the vast, dark sky for everyone. He knew the Chief would never willingly share his treasure. So, Raven decided he must use his cunning to trick the Chief and release the stars. He transformed himself into a tiny hemlock needle, floating silently into the Chief's lodge in a cup of fresh water.



Once inside, Raven waited. When no one was looking, he changed back into his true form, a mischievous, glossy black bird. He quickly snatched the glowing box of stars and flew swiftly out through the smoke hole of the Chief's lodge. He soared high into the heavens, tearing open the box with his strong beak. With a mighty shake, he scattered the sparkling lights across the dark, velvety canvas of the night sky.

And that is how Raven, the clever trickster, gave the world the countless twinkling stars we see each night. His quick thinking and desire for beauty brought light and wonder to



all creatures, forever changing the darkness into a magnificent display, guiding travelers and inspiring dreams.



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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** Raven, the clever trickster who brought stars to the sky.
- B** Coyote, the mischievous transformer who brought fire.
- C** Sky Woman, the creator who fell from the sky.
- D** Thunderbird, the powerful spirit who controls storms.

**(2) In this myth, Raven had to trick the Chief in order to \_\_\_\_\_.**

*— continue writing on the lines below*

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

- A** lasting forever; never ending     **B** very dark and gloomy
- C** peaceful and quiet     **D** full of small bumps

**(4) Why did Raven want to release the stars? What does this tell us about his character?**

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

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