

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

## Tyr and the Binding of Fenrir



Long ago, in Asgard, the gods faced a great danger: Fenrir, a monstrous wolf, one of Loki's children. He grew larger and stronger each day, his jaws wide enough to swallow the sun. The gods, led by Odin, feared Fenrir was destined to bring destruction.

They tried to bind Fenrir with mighty chains, but the wolf snapped them easily. Desperate, Odin asked the dwarves, master craftspeople, to forge an unbreakable bond. They created Gleipnir, a thin, silken ribbon made from impossible things like a cat's footfall and mountain roots. It looked harmless, yet was stronger than any metal.

The gods brought Gleipnir to Fenrir on an island. Fenrir was suspicious. He agreed to be bound only if one god placed a hand in his mouth as a sign of good faith. Tyr, the brave god of justice, stepped forward. He knew the risk, but valued Asgard's safety.

The gods wrapped Gleipnir around Fenrir. The wolf struggled, but the ribbon held firm. Fenrir, realizing he was trapped, bit down hard, severing Tyr's hand. Tyr cried out, yet the gods rejoiced, knowing Fenrir was finally bound.



Fenrir remained bound until Ragnarök, the end of the world. Tyr, a one-handed hero, was honored for his courage and sacrifice. This myth teaches about the price of peace and the bravery needed to face great dangers.



### COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS



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

- (A) Tyr, the brave god of justice who sacrificed his hand.
- (B) Odin, the Allfather who feared Fenrir.
- (C) Loki, the trickster god and Fenrir's father.
- (D) Fenrir, the monstrous wolf destined for destruction.

(2) In this myth, Tyr had to place his hand in Fenrir's mouth in order to

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*→ continue writing on the lines below*

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

- (A) meant to happen in the future
- (B) very strong and powerful
- (C) afraid of something bad
- (D) able to be changed easily

(4) Why did Tyr place his hand in Fenrir's mouth? What does this tell us about his values?

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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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