



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

The Last Battle of King Arthur

Long ago, in the twilight years of Camelot, the noble kingdom of King Arthur faced its greatest and most sorrowful challenge. The golden age of chivalry was drawing to a close.



King Arthur, the legendary ruler, had gathered his loyal Knights of the Round Table, but now faced a devastating betrayal from within his own family. His ambitious nephew, Mordred, sought to seize the throne while Arthur was away, leading to a bitter civil war. Only the steadfast Sir Bedivere, one of Arthur's most trusted knights, remained truly loyal.

The two armies met on a desolate plain at Camlann, a final, sorrowful clash between kin and country. Arthur, weary from years of battles, fought with the strength of a lion, determined to protect his beloved realm from Mordred's selfish ambition. He knew this tragic battle would decide the fate of Britain and all he had built.



In the midst of the brutal chaos, Arthur confronted Mordred, his heart heavy with grief and duty. With a mighty blow, the king struck down his treacherous nephew. But Mordred, in his dying moments, gathered his last strength and dealt Arthur a mortal wound. The great king fell, grievously hurt, and the battle ended in despair.

Sir Bedivere, heartbroken, carried the dying Arthur to the shore of a mysterious lake. There, Arthur commanded Bedivere to return his magical sword, Excalibur – the sword given by the Lady of the Lake – to its watery home. After some hesitation, Bedivere cast the gleaming sword, and a hand rose from the water to receive it. Arthur was then gently



placed on a black barge, accompanied by three mysterious queens, to be taken to the mystical island of Avalon. It was said he would be healed there, or sleep until Britain needed him again. This legend teaches about loyalty, betrayal, the heavy cost of civil war, and the enduring hope for a hero's return, even in the face of ultimate loss.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

- A King Arthur, the legendary ruler and protector of Britain.
- B Mordred, Arthur's nephew who betrayed him.
- C Sir Bedivere, a loyal knight who served Arthur.
- D The Lady of the Lake, who gave Arthur Excalibur.

(2) In this myth, King Arthur commanded Sir Bedivere to return his magical sword, Excalibur, to _____.

— continue writing on the lines below

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

- A A code of honorable behavior for knights.
- B The act of fighting bravely in battle.
- C A type of medieval armor or weapon.
- D The loyalty a knight shows to his king.



(4) Why did King Arthur fight Mordred despite his heart being heavy with grief? What does this tell us about his values as a king?

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

