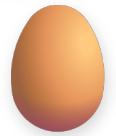


Read each myth or legend carefully. Use details from the passage to answer the questions in complete sentences.

Pangu and World's Creation

Long ago, in ancient Chinese mythology, before the world existed, there was only a vast, swirling chaos contained within a giant cosmic egg .



Inside this dark, primordial egg, for eighteen thousand years, slept Pangu, the first being, a colossal giant with immense strength.

One day, Pangu awoke, feeling incredibly cramped. With a mighty roar, he swung his colossal axe and shattered the cosmic egg. The light, clear parts rose to form the heavens, while the heavy, dark parts sank to become the earth. Fearing the sky and earth would close up again, Pangu stood between them, pushing the sky higher and the earth lower for another eighteen thousand years, growing taller each day to ensure their permanent separation.

When the sky and earth were finally stable and perfectly balanced, Pangu, utterly exhausted from his immense task, collapsed and died.

Upon his death, Pangu's body transformed to create the world . His breath became the wind and clouds, his voice the thunder, and his eyes the sun and moon. His limbs became the great mountains, his blood the flowing rivers, and his muscles the fertile soil. His hair became the stars, and even the tiny creatures on his body became the first humans. This ancient



Chinese myth teaches us that the world and all its wonders were formed from the ultimate sacrifice of a giant.



COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

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

- (A) Pangu, the giant who created the world.
- (B) Nu Wa, the goddess who patched the sky.
- (C) Hou Yi, the archer who shot down suns.
- (D) Chang'e, the goddess who lives on the moon.

(2) In this myth, Pangu had to stand between the sky and earth for eighteen thousand years in order to _____.

continue writing on the lines below

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

- (A) Existing at the very beginning of time.
- (B) Very large and powerful.
- (C) Full of bright colors.
- (D) Made of soft, fluffy material.

(4) Why did Pangu continue to push the sky and earth apart for so long, even though it exhausted him? What does this tell us about his values?

(5)



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

