

Hour Bonus: Esoteric Mythology

Picto-Gods

“To know the face of god is to know madness.” – Battlestar Galactica

Below each image write the name of a mythological deity corresponding to each of the following pictures, as well as what mythology they are from. More than one answer is acceptable for some, but they should still very specifically correspond to the picture.

1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



7.



8.



9.



10.



The Mathematical Bestiary

Name the mythological creatures hinted at by the below formulas.

1.

$$\text{Stick Figure} + e^{3\pi i/2} =$$

2.

$$\text{Goat} + \text{Man with Horns} =$$

3.

$$\text{Horse} + 4 \text{ Legs} =$$

4.

$$\text{Snake} + \text{Snake} =$$

5.

$$\text{Monkey} + \text{Hand} =$$

6.

$$\text{Dolphin} + \text{Wolf} =$$

7.

$$\text{Bunny} + \text{Trumpet} =$$

8.

$$\text{Batman Logo} + \text{Man with Gun} =$$

9.

$$\text{Phoenix} \in \text{Africa} =$$

Answers:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

Odiferous Outcomes

Based on the hint of a punishment or fate, name the mythological character who suffered it.

1. Punted into a pyre
2. Perpetually prepared for deity's dinner
3. Roll rock; repeat. Roll rock; repeat
4. Buy you a draaank... Oh wait, JK.
5. Snake spit stimulating slight sizzling sensations

What would *you* do?

Given the following dilemmas, propose your solution to them, properly citing mythological know-how or past instances of similar issues.

1. You're walking down Spring Street when suddenly a serpent with twelve heads shows up. How do you solve this dilemma? (No citing Disney.) (*Bonus*: in implementing your solution, a crab begins to pinch you. How do you deal with this?)
2. On a mathematics exam, Professor Colin Adams gives you an unsolvable question on Knot theory. How do you "solve" it?

3. Chilling next to the metallic eyes, you notice amongst the grass a miniscule human riding on an ant. He asks you when you noticed him; how do you respond? And what happens if you respond in any other way?

4. Williams College suffers through three years of endless winter. How do you react?

5. A campus security official catches you engaging in illicit activity. In writing up his report, he asks you for your name. What name do you give him?

6. Whilst nine paces outside of Amherst College during a three-day truce, the druids of Amherst (yes, Amherst has druids) conjure up a storm to drive you away. How do you deal?

7. Your favorite stuffed purple cow, Ephie, is rendered colorless due to a bleach related accident. How do you rename her?

8. In a desperate bid to ensure more Snack Bar points you resolve to provide yourself with your own food perpetually. In order to be as cost-efficient as possible, and assuming that you happen to be in Ireland for the afternoon, what do you purchase to accomplish this feat?

And now for something completely different and slightly more contemporary and folkloreish mythologywise...

Answer the following questions on the subject of Uncle Remus stories

1. Who created the “Uncle Remus” stories, and where is he from?
2. Who is the main character of the Uncle Remus stories?
3. What does “Brer” mean?
4. Where was Brer Rabbit born and bred?
5. Why does Brer Fox hate Brer Rabbit
6. Who else hates and wants to catch Brer Rabbit?
7. Brer Fox wants to capture and kill Brer Rabbit. In “Brer Rabbit & The Tar Baby” what does Brer Fox make in order to do this, and how does he catch Brer Rabbit with it?
8. What animal outsmarted Brer Rabbit?
9. What kind of animal is Old Man Tarrypin?
10. At least how many times has Brer Wolf died?
11. Who declared war on mosquitoes?
12. How did Brer Rabbit defeat the mosquitoes and win Brer Wolf’s daughter?

Fyctional Mithology

Answer each of the following questions based on the mythology of a fictional work; also name to work/works from which the mythology arises.

1. Following the defeat of his master in the First Age, what Ainu wrought havoc during the next two?
2. How are the dozen deities of the twelve colonies collectively known?
3. What whiffled through a wood, burbling as it came?
4. The universe (aka the Library) is composed of an indefinite (perhaps infinite) number of galleries of what geometric shape?
5. What is the universal symbol of the basic ideals of civilization that is composed in part of plexiglas, a robot's leg, and the ashes of a burnt cricket stump?