

Name: _____

Period: _____

Creation/Origin Myth

Language Arts 3

The Native Americans used origin, or creation, myths as a way to explain natural phenomenon. They, and many other cultures throughout history, used myths to attempt to explain such things as the creation of humans, seasons, animals, the sun and moon, and even human emotions, like anger or jealousy, by making up stories about how they came into existence. Often these stories included the existence of supernatural beings that have the power to make extraordinary things happen.

Prepare and write your own personal origin myth. Remember to include lots of description and even some dialogue. Use the following steps to help get you started...

- Decide what your myth will attempt to explain.
- Develop 3 or 4 characters (animal or human) with strong descriptive adjectives to explain their character traits (i.e. deceitful, kind, generous).
- Consider how your characters feel about each other.
- Decide on a creator or other supernatural character for your myth. Who is responsible for what took place?
- Consider what the world was like before this creation.
- Consider how the creation of this person, place, thing, or idea, changed the world.

REQUIRED ELEMENTS	PTS. POSSIBLE	PTS. EARNED
Uses of creation myth elements are evident (i.e. strong descriptive characters, supernatural elements, creation of something/someone/etc.)	15	
Myth is well-developed (i.e. strong beginning, middle, and end)	10	
Creative title	5	
At least 3 full pages	5	
Typed, double-spaced, size 12 font	5	
Proper heading & page #s	5	
Minimum grammar & spelling mistakes	5	
TOTAL	50	