**Storytelling Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**English 11**

*Complete the definitions for each of the following words using the list below:*

**literal false historical moral creation magical**

**Bible time sacred place symbolic plot**

**animals moral**

**Story**: An account of imaginary or real characters and events told to entertain an audience.

**Myth:** A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ story from the past. Myths concern the powers that control humanity and the relationships between these powers and humans. They are often \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ stories, or may explain events or the way the world is, and express a culture’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ values.

**Legend**: A story from the past about a subject that was, or is, believed to have been \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. A legend is always associated with a particular \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in history.

**Fable:** A short story, usually with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ as characters, that conveys a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (a lesson that teaches about right and wrong).

**Folktale:** A story that has a fictional \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and no significant connection to time or place. Folktales are usually passed on through oral tradition, and are usually considered to be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or superstitious.

**Fairy tale:** A children’s story based on imaginary, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ characters and lands.

**Allegory:** A story that has two levels of meaning, one that is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the story itself) and another that is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (what the story, including its characters and events, represents).

**Parable**: A short allegorical story designed to teach or illustrate a truth, moral, or aspect of religion. Often associated with the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*On a separate piece of paper, answer the following questions. You may do this with a partner or in a group of three if you like. (4 marks)*

1. Why do you think there are so many words for “story”? (1)
2. Which words do you think are **least** likely to apply to Indigenous stories of North America? (3)

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**Cultural appropriation:** A term for one culture using or adopting aspects of another (minority) culture without permission, and often without respect or true understanding of the minority culture. Cultural appropriation can be recognized in Hallowe’en costumes, where non-Indigenous people might dress up using culturally or spiritually significant headdresses or clothing. Often when things are appropriated, members of the original culture are criticized or looked down upon for wearing them, while members of the dominant (often historically oppressive) culture are praised for wearing the same thing.

*In small groups (2-3), choose and read a book from Ms. Hamilton’s selection. Then continue answering the questions on your piece of paper. (15 marks)*

1. What is the title and author of your book? Make sure to format the title properly! (2)
2. All of these books are types of stories.
3. Is your book a myth, legend, fable, folktale, fairy tale, allegory, or parable? (1)
4. What makes it fit (or not fit) one of these definitions? (2)
5. Who is the *protagonist* (main character) of your story? (1)
6. a) What is a *trickster*? (1)

b) Is there a character who plays the role of trickster in your story? If so, who is it? (2)

1. What is a lesson that readers might take from this story? (1)
2. The author’s background and/or relationship to the people whose story he/she tells is essential for understanding whether or not the work may be appropriated (told without permission).
3. What can you find out about the author of your book? Is there information about his/her ancestry, culture, birthplace, or relationship to the culture whose story he/she tells? (2)
4. Is your story *authentic*, or is it possible that it has been appropriated? (1)
5. How can you tell whether it is appropriated or not? Be specific. (2)

*Now, think about stories from a culture with which you are familiar to base your responses on to the following questions. It may be a Yukon First Nation, or any other culture (Indigenous or non-Indigenous, dominant or not). (8 marks)*

1. On which culture are you focusing? (1)
2. How did you learn about the stories from this culture? (1)
3. What are some characters or types of characters that regularly appear in the stories of this culture? (These could be such things as royalty, Chiefs, animals, or creators). (3)
4. Why are stories important to this culture? (2)
5. Do you know of any *protocols* (rules or guidelines) about sharing stories among members of the culture, or with people who aren’t members of the culture? If you do, what are they? If not, do you think they exist, and why/why not? (2)

*When you have finished all of the questions, please staple them to this sheet and hand in, with ALL your group member’s names on the response sheet.*