

American Lit  
Generic Myth Worksheet

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Period \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1) Title of Myth \_\_\_\_\_

Author/Source \_\_\_\_\_

2) According to Joseph Campbell, what are the four functions of Mythology? (What are the specific names that fit the descriptions below?)

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

3) Think about Joseph Campbell's ideas concerning the functions of myths. Then, on the shaded bars below, make a mark in the appropriate spot to show how important you think each function is **in this myth**. In the space below each bar, write notes explaining your reasons for rating each function's importance as you did.

Not  
Important

Very  
Important

a. To instill a sense of awe toward the  
mystery of life



b. To explain the workings of the world



c. To support and validate social customs



d. To guide people through the trials of life

