

Name _____

The Myth of Arachne and Athena

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Arachne's tapestry depicted the gods disrespectfully, while Athena's tapestry showed them with wisdom and reverence. This contrast reflects Arachne's arrogance and Athena's wisdom.
2. Hubris, or excessive pride, is a central theme in the story. Arachne's pride in her weaving skills led to her challenge of Athena, resulting in her transformation into a spider as punishment.
3. The transformation of Arachne into a spider serves as a warning against challenging the gods and the consequences of excessive pride. It suggests that even great talents must be tempered with humility.
4. The myth highlights the delicate balance between artistic expression and ego. Artists should take pride in their work but also remain humble, recognizing that there are limits to their abilities and that challenging divine authority can lead to disastrous consequences.

