

Name _____

The Myth of Pegasus and Bellerophon

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Bellerophon is portrayed as a courageous and determined hero in the myth. His strengths, including his skill in combat and determination, enable him to achieve remarkable feats. However, his pride and ambition ultimately lead to his downfall, emphasizing the consequences of hubris in Greek mythology.
2. Divine intervention, especially Zeus's actions, plays a pivotal role in the story. Zeus sends a gadfly to sting Pegasus, which results in Bellerophon's fall. This demonstrates the gods' power and influence over mortal affairs, highlighting the theme of divine interference in human destinies.
3. Pegasus as a constellation symbolizes the enduring legacy of heroism and inspiration. It serves as a reminder of the heroic deeds of Bellerophon and Pegasus, inspiring future generations to reach for the stars and achieve greatness. It symbolizes the idea that even in tragedy, one's legacy can live on.
4. Answers will vary. An alternate ending could depict a scenario where Bellerophon overcomes his pride and regains Pegasus's trust. This ending might emphasize the importance of humility and cooperation, leading to a different moral message.

