

Name _____

The Tale of Theseus and the Minotaur

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Theseus' decision to volunteer as a tribute shows his bravery and selflessness. He was willing to sacrifice himself to end the cruel tradition and protect his fellow Athenians from the Minotaur.
2. Ariadne played a crucial role by providing Theseus with the ball of string, which helped him navigate the labyrinth and ultimately defeat the Minotaur. Her love for Theseus and her clever solution contributed to the story's success.
3. The labyrinth symbolizes the challenges and obstacles that Theseus must overcome to achieve his goal of defeating the Minotaur. Theseus' use of the string represents his determination and intelligence in navigating life's complexities.
4. The story illustrates heroism through Theseus' willingness to face danger and his triumph over the Minotaur. His heroic actions free Athens from the Minotaur's terror, demonstrating how individuals can bring positive change to their communities through acts of bravery and sacrifice.

