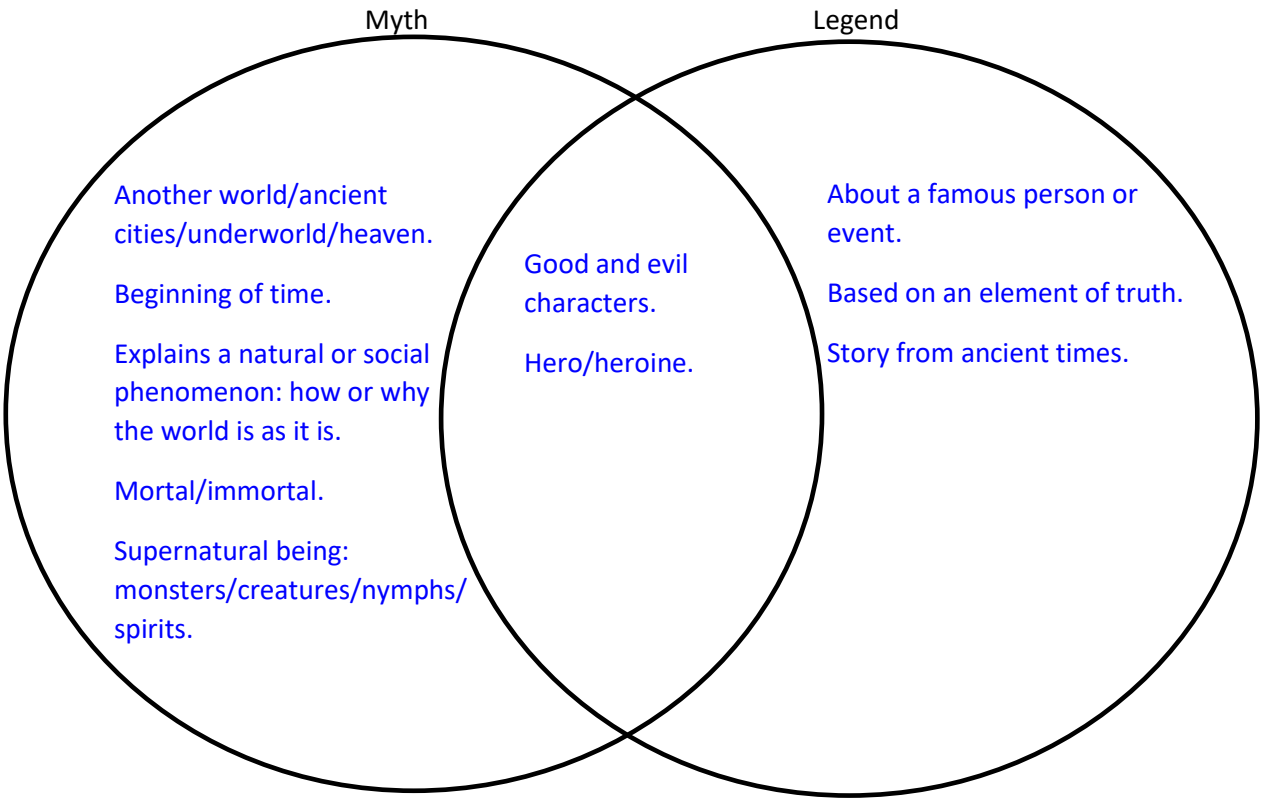
Comparing Myths and Legends - Answers

Myths and legends are both types of stories that are passed down through generations. They may both include fighting and explain how things are in the world. But how are the genres different?

Use the check lists below to compare the features of both myths and legends; then complete the Venn diagram to show the features of myths on the left; the features of legends on the right; and the middle section should show the features that appear in both story types.

Your assignment at the end of Part Two is to write your own mythical story so knowing the features will be greatly beneficial.

Features of a **Myth**	Features of a **Legend**
Another world / Ancient cities / Underworld / heaven Beginning of time Explains a natural or social phenomenon: how or why the world is as it is. Good and evil characters. Hero / heroine Mortal / Immortal Supernatural being: Monsters / Creatures/ Nymphs / spirits	About a famous person or event Based on an element of truth Good and evil characters. Story from ancient times



Complete the sentence below:

A myth has _supernatural beings_____; whereas a legend has

characters based on a famous person or event._____.