Teacher's notes and answer key

Bakunawa and the Fire Dogs – Two Myths About Eclipses

Subjects: English · Ethics · Geography | recommended from age 11 (A2/B1) | Video: 8:41 min

Answers B

1. The creator god Bathala made seven moons to light the night evenly. The sea dragon Bakunawa was fascinated by their glow and swallowed six of them.

2. With noise: they banged pots, pans and drums, shouted and danced.

3. The king of Gamak-guk, the “realm of darkness”, which never had light or warmth. He wanted to steal the sun or the moon for his kingdom.

4. The sun is too hot and the moon too cold – the dogs let go at once.

5. During lunar eclipses people bang cooking pots or gongs (agong) to “save the moon”.

Answer C

Correct numbers from top to bottom: 4 – 7 – 1 – 6 – 2 – 8 – 3 – 5

Notes on D and E

E: Bakunawa – winged, serpent-like sea dragon / lunar eclipse / people act and drive it away with noise / a living custom. Bulgae – a king's fire dogs / solar and lunar eclipses / people are only spectators / today mostly a funny children's tale.

D2: A light suddenly vanishing from the sky was frightening; an explanation turned fear into action or understanding long before the astronomical cause was known.

Content note and age

Recommended from age 11. No disturbing scenes.

Sources of the retelling: Bisaya and Bikol folk tradition (Philippines) and Korean folk tales.

The narrator's voice and the illustrations in the video are AI-generated; the script follows the established tradition. You are welcome to copy and share this worksheet for classroom use.

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