Teacher's notes and answer key

Susanoo and Thor – Two Storm Gods Against Giant Serpents

Subjects: English · History · Religious Studies | recommended from age 11 (B1) | Video: 9:33 min

Answers B

1. He got out of control: he wrecked Amaterasu's rice fields, defiled her offering hall and threw a flayed horse into the weaving room; Amaterasu hid in a cave.

2. He had eight barrels of strong sake brewed. The eight heads drank, fell asleep drunk, and he cut the serpent apart with his sword.

3. A magnificent sword, Kusanagi-no-Tsurugi; it became one of Japan's three imperial regalia.

4. Odin threw the young serpent – one of Loki's children – into the ocean around Midgard, where it grew until it circled the whole world.

5. He kills the serpent but is fatally poisoned, walks nine steps and dies.

Answer C

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

Notes on D and E

E: Susanoo – Yamata-no-Orochi / a trick with sake / survives, marries, becomes a protector / the sword Kusanagi as imperial regalia, worship at the Yasaka Shrine. Thor – the Midgard Serpent Jörmungandr / strength and the hammer Mjölnir / dies from the poison / thousands of Viking-age Mjölnir pendants; his sons inherit the hammer.

D1: Japan – order can be restored; Scandinavia – nobody escapes fate, but renewal follows the end.

Content note and age

Recommended from age 11. Fight scenes (the serpent is cut apart, Thor dies), but no graphic images.

Sources of the retelling: Kojiki/Nihon Shoki and the Poetic and Prose Edda.

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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