

## EGYPTIAN MYTHOLOGY ANALYSIS QUESTIONS

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*Answer the following questions with 2-3 sentences each. Use specific examples from the stories to back up your opinion.*

1. **Analyze:** The Egyptian myths intend to explain why the world works the way it does. What are some parts of the myths that explain certain aspects of nature?
2. **Infer:** Reading stories from other cultures helps you to understand them a little better. What are some specific details you can infer about Egyptian culture based on their myths?
3. **Feminist Analysis:** Is Isis a good role model for women?
4. **Theme:** What comment do the Egyptian myths have to say about power and those who wield it?
5. **Analyze:** Following the reign of Horus, the myths say that all pharaohs were gods in human forms. In fact, they are Horus reborn. What is dangerous about believing your ruler is actually a god?
6. **Symbolism:** How are snakes presented in the Egyptian myths—positively or negatively? Explain.
7. **Analyze:** How are the beliefs of the Egyptians regarding death, burial, and the afterlife reflected in their myths?
8. **Connect:** How could a belief in the afterlife alter how you live your life on earth? Explain.
9. **Symbolism:** In artwork many of the Egyptian gods are depicted as having the head of a specific animal which symbolizes an aspect of their personality. Analyze the gods who are animal hybrids. What do their animal features symbolize about their personalities?
10. **Author's Purpose:** Set is a mystery because no one can identify which animal he is patterned after. He is shown having a black snout almost like an anteater, long flat ears, and a forked tail. Some think it is a real-life animal that might have gone extinct. Others think the animal is intended to be a fantastical beast. What is your guess?
11. **Analyze:** Is Set truly the villain of the story? Explain.
12. **Character Analysis:** Set's ability to transform into various beasts highlights his beast-like nature and helps establish him as a villain. Conversely, Isis and Osiris are presented as more "civilized" gods. In your opinion are Isis and Osiris more civilized than Set? Explain.
13. **Respond:** Which character in the Egyptian myths was most interesting to you? Explain.
14. **Analyze:** In the Egyptian myths you have read, who would you call "the hero" of the stories? Explain.
15. **Theme:** According to the Egyptian myths, what are the qualities of a good leader? Explain.
16. **Connect:** What is a lesson a modern reader could learn from the Egyptian myths? Explain.