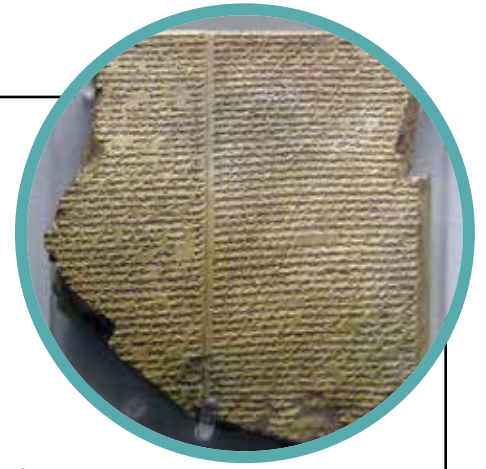


Name: _____

The Epic of Gilgamesh



You might think a story is old after 100–200 years. Try around 4,000 years! That's how old the *Epic of Gilgamesh* is. An epic is a long, exciting poem. The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is the oldest known written story in the world.

The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is a Sumerian story. Sumer was the first human civilization on Earth. Sumer came up with the first writing system. They used it to write things long before the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, like records and religious texts. People told stories long before the *Epic of Gilgamesh* too. They didn't write them down, though.

Would you like a story about a godlike king? Making friends with monsters? Fighting monsters too? Finding a way to live forever? You might like to read the *Epic of Gilgamesh* one day. Don't worry—we have it in English now!

Preview
Please log in to download the printable version of this worksheet.

3. Based on the description of the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, which story was most likely inspired by it?

- a. Hercules b. The Tortoise and the Hare c. Cinderella

4. Which of the following is true about the *Epic of Gilgamesh*?

- a. It's the oldest human story.
b. It's the oldest written text.
c. It's the oldest written story.

5. Would you want to read the *Epic of Gilgamesh*? Explain why or why not.

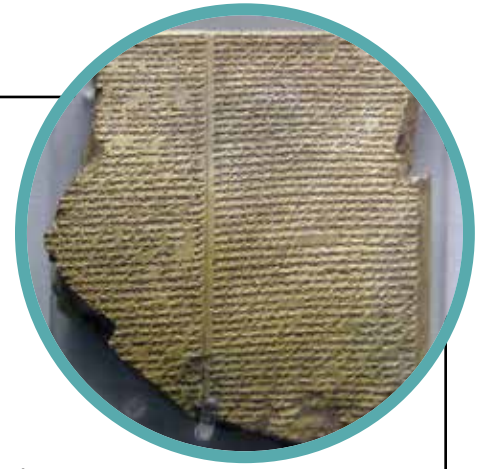
ANSWER KEY

The Epic of Gilgamesh

You might think a story is old after 100–200 years. Try around 4,000 years! That's how old the *Epic of Gilgamesh* is. An epic is a long, exciting poem. The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is the oldest known written story in the world.

The *Epic of Gilgamesh* is a Sumerian story. Sumer was the first human civilization on Earth. Sumer came up with the first writing system. They used it to write things long before the *Epic of Gilgamesh*, like records and religious texts. People told stories long before the *Epic of Gilgamesh* too. They didn't write them down, though.

Would you like a story about a godlike king? Making friends with monsters? Fighting monsters too? Finding a way to live forever? You might like to read the *Epic of Gilgamesh* one day. Don't worry—we have it in English now!



Preview

Please log in to download
the printable version of this worksheet.

