

- myth**  
[miθ] *n*
1. миф
  2. несуществующее , выдуманное лицо; несуществующая вещь

**myth** Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.  
**myth** [myth myths] *BrE* [miθ] <sup>ˈ</sup> *NAmE* [miθ] <sup>ˈ</sup> **noun** countable, uncountable

1. a story from ancient times, especially one that was told to explain natural events or to describe the early history of a people; this type of story

**Syn:** ↑legend

- ancient Greek myths
- a creation myth (= that explains how the world began)
- the heroes of myth and legend

2. something that many people believe but that does not exist or is false

**Syn:** ↑fallacy

- It is time to dispel the myth of a classless society (= to show that it does not exist) .
- Contrary to **popular myth** , women are not worse drivers than men.

**see also** ↑urban myth

Word Origin:

mid 19th cent.: from modern Latin **mythus** , via late Latin from Greek **muthos** .

Example Bank:

- Contrary to popular myth, women are not worse drivers than men.
- How did the myth get so firmly established in the popular consciousness?
- It's a complete myth that he has royal blood.
- It's a total myth that this causes blindness.
- People's faith in the Emperor was based on the myth that he was infallible.
- Propaganda has turned the former president into a heroic myth.
- The battle has become part of national myth.
- The film tears down the cosy myths about fair play in war.
- The myth persists that men are more intelligent than women.
- The propaganda of both sides relies heavily on historical myth.
- There is a great myth that all sports players are stupid.
- There is a great myth that people who wear glasses are more intelligent.
- We are trying to lay to rest the myths surrounding mental illness.
- Women have peddled the myth that all decent men are either married or gay.
- a popular myth about twins
- an attempt to perpetuate the myth of racial superiority
- perpetuating the myth of racial superiority
- the creation myths of the Eskimos
- the myth about the golden apple
- It is time to dispel the myth of the classless society.
- It's a myth that cats only swish their tails when they are angry.
- The story parallels the creation myth of the ancient Babylonians.

**myth** Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)  
**myth** /miθ/ *BrE* <sup>ˈ</sup> *AmE* <sup>ˈ</sup> **noun** [uncountable and countable]

[Date: 1800-1900; Language: Greek; Origin: mythos 'story, speech, myth']

1. an idea or story that many people believe, but which is not true **SYN fallacy**

**myth of**

the myth of male superiority

**myth that**

It was important to dispel the myth that Aids was a gay disease.

2. an ancient story, especially one invented in order to explain natural or historical events ⇒ **mythology:**

a book of Greek myths

**myth of**

the myth of Orpheus

the giants of myth and fairytale ⇒ ↑urban myth

•••

## COLLOCATIONS

### ■ verbs

- **create a myth** Stalin created a lot of myths about himself.
- **believe a myth** People still believe the myth that money will bring them happiness.
- **explode / dispel / debunk a myth** (=show that it is not true) Our goal is to debunk the myth that science is boring.
- **perpetuate a myth** (=make it continue) Let's stop perpetuating this myth.
- **a myth grows up** (=starts) A number of myths have grown up about their relationship.
- **a myth persists** (=it continues) The myth still persists that we need to build more roads.
- **myth has it that ...** (=there is a myth that) Myth had it that Mrs Thatcher only needed four hours sleep a night.

### ■ adjectives

- **a common/popular myth** (=that many people believe) Contrary to popular myth, most road accidents are not the result of speeding.
- **a modern myth** Is it a modern myth that we are living in a classless society?
- **a powerful myth** (=that has a lot of influence on people) There is a powerful myth that crime has increased – in fact there was much more crime 100 years ago.
- **an enduring myth** (=that has continued for a long time) The idea that Kennedy was shot by the CIA is one of the enduring myths of our time.

### ■ phrases

- **be a complete/total myth** It's a complete myth that eating carrots helps you to see in the dark.
- **be a bit of a myth** (=be not really true) The whole story is a bit of a myth.
- **the myths surrounding something** (=relating to something) the myths surrounding rural life

...

### THESAURUS

- **story** a description of how something happened that is intended to entertain people, and may be true or imaginary: a ghost story | a love story | It's a story about a man who loses his memory. | a book of short stories
- **tale** a story about strange imaginary events, or exciting events that happened in the past: a fairy tale by Hans Christian Andersen | I loved hearing tales of his travels.
- **myth** *noun* [uncountable and countable] a very old imaginary story about gods and magical creatures: an ancient myth | Greek and Roman myths
- **legend** *noun* [uncountable and countable] an old story about brave people or magical events that are probably not true: popular legends of the creation of the world | According to legend, King Arthur was buried there.
- **fable** a traditional imaginary short story that teaches a moral lesson, especially a story about animals: the fable of the tortoise and the hare | a Chinese fable
- **epic** a story told in a long book, film, or poem which is about great or exciting events, especially in history: an epic about 13th-century Scottish hero William Wallace
- **saga** a story about a series of events that take place over a long period of time, especially events involving one family: a family saga beginning in the 1880s
- **yarn** *informal* a long exciting story that is not completely true: The movie's a rattling good yarn and full of action.

### myth

Freakuency Pack

12500 **3523**<sup>MCW</sup>

15000 **2663**<sup>COCA</sup>

RANGE: **5k** MYTH 10540

myth 7338

myths 3202

COCA 500k Unlemmatized

4165 **5214**<sup>7322</sup> *nn1*

16 **199197**<sup>16</sup> *nnu*