**MYTHOLOGY AROUND THE WORLD**

There are many rich and fascinating mythologies from around the world, each offering unique insights into the cultures that created them. :

1. **Norse Mythology**: From the Scandinavian regions, this mythology features gods like Odin, Thor, and Loki. It includes the epic tales of **Ragnarök** (the end of the world) and the creation of the world from the body of the first being, Ymir.
2. **Egyptian Mythology**: Ancient Egyptian mythology includes a pantheon of gods and goddesses like Ra, Isis, and Osiris. Key themes include creation, death, and the afterlife, with **the Book of the Dead** being a notable text.
3. **Hindu Mythology**: Central to Hinduism, this mythology includes gods like Vishnu, Shiva, and Devi, and epic narratives such as the **Mahabharata and Ramayana.** These texts explore concepts of duty, righteousness, and cosmic order.
4. **Chinese Mythology**: This includes a rich array of deities, legends, and folklore such as the stories of the **Jade** **Emperor**, the **Dragon Kings**, and the **Monkey King** from the classic novel "Journey to the West."
5. **Japanese Mythology**: Featuring gods and spirits like **Amaterasu** (the sun goddess), **Susanoo** (the storm god), and various **kami** (spirits), Japanese mythology is deeply intertwined with Shinto and Buddhist traditions.
6. **Mesopotamian Mythology**: One of the earliest mythologies, it includes gods like **Marduk and Ishtar.** The Epic of **Gilgamesh** is a key text, featuring themes of heroism, friendship, and the search for immortality.
7. **Mayan Mythology**: This includes a pantheon of gods and a rich cosmology reflected in texts like the **Popole Vuh**, which recounts creation myths and the adventures of the Hero Twins.
8. **Incan Mythology**: Centered around gods such as Inti (the sun god) and Pachamama (the earth goddess), Incan myths reflect the importance of **agriculture and the natural world** in their society.
9. **African Mythologies**: Diverse across the continent, African mythologies include the **Yoruba gods** of the Orisha, the trickster god **Anansi** from the Ashanti, and the **ancestral spirits** of various cultures.

**Useful Vocabulary**

**core** beliefs= βασικές πεποιθήσεις

fears= φόβοι

aspirations= προσδοκίες

values= αξίες

**shape** characters= διαμορφώνω χαρακτήρες

motivation= κίνητρα

**overall** themes= γενικά θέματα

**provide** insights **into**..= δίνω μια εικόνα για κάτι

**epic** tales= επικές ιστορίες

first beings= οι πρωτόπλαστοι

creation= δημιουργία

destruction= καταστροφή

death and the afterlife= ο θάνατος και η ζωή μετά θάνατον

a notable text= ένα αξιόλογο κείμενο

**explore** concepts= εξερευνώ έννοιες

duty= καθήκον

righteousness= ηθική

cosmic order= κοσμική τάξη

**a rich array of**= μια μεγάλη γκάμα από..

deities= θεότητες

folklore= λαογραφία / δοξασίες

feature= προβάλλω, αναδεικνύω

it is **deeply intertwined with**..= είναι συνυφασμένο με..

the **search for** immortality= η αναζήτηση της αθανασίας

mortal= θνητός

immortal= αθάνατος

pantheon= πάνθεο

**creation** myths= μύθοι σχετικά με τη δημιουργία του κόσμου

cosmology= κοσμολογία

**ancestral** spirits= πνεύματα των προγόνων

a **trickster** god= απατεώνας