

Honors Literature and Short Stories
Week 29

The Odyssey

Finish reading the book

The Hero's Journey essay

Some useful sites I gave earlier for learning more about the hero's journey.

<http://hubcap.clemson.edu/~sparks/sffilm/mmswtab.html>

<http://www.physics.adelaide.edu.au/~iborchar/Arcane/heroes.html>

<http://faculty.gvsu.edu/websterm/Hero.htm>

We have studied the **5-paragraph essay**, so just briefly:

- Opening paragraph begins with a grabber, then proceeds to introducing the book and author, and a brief overall description of the plot.
 - It will also briefly give an overall explanation of the idea of Hero's Journey.
 - It will end with a thesis statement which includes the three main ideas.
- You will have three supporting paragraphs, each beginning with a topic sentence, which includes one of your main ideas.
- Remember, if the topic sentence is too detailed, you limit your entire paragraph to the details in the topic sentence.
- Your closing paragraph will bring your three ideas together, show the importance, and also restate your thesis statement -- in different words.

- You will write in the PRESENT tense (this is a literature essay),
- and it will be written in third person only (no I, we, us, you).
- No contractions, and it must be in active voice.
- You must integrate a couple quotes into each paragraph, and cite by page number only (36).
- Nothing else needs to be cited in a literature essay (unless you are using outside resources), and no Works Cited page is necessary (unless you use resources in addition to the story).

Begin by organizing your points. Then organize the essay:

- ❖ Topic: How the Hero's Journey is represented in *The Odyssey* Your opening paragraph needs to provide background on the Hero's Journey in general -- and then gradually narrow down to YOUR topic.
Main idea #1: Separation
Main idea #2: Descent
Main idea #3: Return

Topic Sentences and organization of paragraphs

- ❑ Please note that you are writing about the Hero's Journey, and using the story to **support** the idea of the Hero's Journey.
- ❑ This means that essentially, this is an essay on The Hero's Journey.
- ❑ When you start a paragraph, you are going to be introducing the stage of the journey and what it means. You will use information from your notes from your resources (I gave you websites on the Hero's Journey), and you will need to cite those sources.
- ❑ You will then transition into the rest of the paragraph, and use examples from the story to support the definition of that stage.
 - Many students in the past have made the error of starting with topic sentences that are about the story. That is not what you are doing.

Format --

this will be a 5-paragraph essay, and you have learned how to write this.

Be sure to read this carefully in the lesson.

- ❑ Write in the PRESENT tense.
- ❑ Third person
- ❑ no contractions
- ❑ active voice
- ❑ blend quotes - but make SURE you are not overwhelming your writing with quotes - this should primarily be your own words.
 - your quotes will be from *The Odyssey* - there probably is no reason to have to **quote** material from the other sources - that should be your own summarized words.
- ❑ You WILL be using parenthetical references, because you will have information from your outside sources on the Hero's Journey, in addition to your quotes from the book.
- ❑ You don't need to cite supporting information from the story (**except for quotes**), though.
- ❑ Your **Works Cited page** will include the book, and any resources you used outside of it.
- ❑ Your opening paragraph will begin by providing background on the Hero's Journey in general, and then slowly narrow down to how it is shown in many stories, and finally will narrow to your topic (how it is represented in *The Odyssey*), with a thesis statement that is specific to that (with your three main ideas).

Assignments

1. Complete Hero's Journey Chart. Using the notes from the chart, and the description of the Hero's Journey (also in Week 27), begin your 5-paragraph essay. The three main ideas for the three supporting paragraphs will be Separation, Descent, and Return. Please review the notes in this lesson to organize your essay properly. **Due Week 32 200 points**
2. **Journal 20 points** Finish reading *The Odyssey* by Homer. Read Books **Books XIX - end this week**. What is the role of family in the Odyssey? What values characterize the relationship between fathers and sons? How does Homer portray the idea of continuity between generations?
3. **Weekly Shorts: 5 points**