

Prompt: Using the library/Internet research you have recently completed, write a multi-paragraph informational essay that answers this question: How does the mythical adventure of this hero/heroine illustrate the elements of the Heroic Cycle? Compare this hero's journey to other heroic tales that include similar elements. Include in-text citations in the body of the essay.

Sample Introduction (Hero):

“That which has been *is* what will be. That which *is* done is what will be done, and *there is* nothing new under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 1:9). Does it ever seem like there are no truly creative or original ideas anymore? Part of the reason for that is because most of archetypal themes, motifs, and story cycles that modern movie audiences know so well were actually devised by the storytellers and mythmakers of ancient Greece. The Heroic Cycle that we recognize in modern epics like *Star Wars* and *The Hunger Games* was first employed by the ancient poets, whose heroes followed a particular story pattern that included certain elements (Hamby 22). **One Greek hero that illustrates most of the elements of the traditional Heroic Cycle is Jason.**

A Sensible Organization for the rest of the paper might look like what follows:

Paragraph II: Introduction to the story of Jason and a definition of the Heroic Cycle.

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph III: 3-4 Elements of the Heroic Cycle and how Jason's adventure matches them

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph IV: 3-4 Elements of the Heroic Cycle and how Jason's adventure matches them

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph V: Compare Jason's story to another adventure that also illustrates the heroic cycle.

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph VI: Conclusion

See next page for a sample with a god/goddess.

Prompt: Using the library/Internet research you have recently completed, write a multi-paragraph informational essay that answers this question: How does this character or myth illustrate some of the common themes/motifs in Greek mythology? Compare this myth to others that contain similar elements. Include in-text citations in the body of the essay.

Sample Introduction (God/Goddess):

According to the Bible, “God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:27). According to Greek mythology, however, this was not the case. The gods and goddesses of Greek myth are often just thinly veiled human emotions dressed up with supernatural powers. This is one of many common motifs in Greek mythology that is illustrated by multiple characters from the pantheon (Zimmerman 16). **The myths involving Hera clearly illustrate four elements commonly found in Greek mythology.**

A Sensible Organization for the rest of the paper might look like what follows:

Paragraph II: Introduction to the story of Hera w/references to the many myths she appears in + mention the fact that there are recurring themes and structures in all Greek mythology

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph III: Common Theme/Motif w/ explanation of how Hera illustrates it

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph IV: Common Theme/Motif w/ explanation of how Hera illustrates it

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph V: Another myth that shares some of the same common themes/motifs as Hera

- At least two (2) specific quotations (textual evidence) w/reasoning, elaboration, transitions, etc.

Paragraph VI: Conclusion

Works Cited

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