



Expository (Informative) Writing Mini Essay

Context

This year, I have a number of students who don't understand the role of the gods in the epic. I have another group that doesn't see any theme development. I need your help!

Purpose: select either A or B

A. Write a brief essay *explaining* how a god helped or hurt Odysseus on his quest to return home. To *explain*, tell how or why by using facts, examples, or reasons. Also, emphasize cause-and-effect relationships.

B. Write a brief essay *describing* how Homer develops one of the themes we have discussed in class. To *describe*, provide precise details, which paint word pictures about the events in question.

Follow the writing process!

1. Decide which question to answer.
2. Brainstorm incidents from the epic.
3. Write a working thesis statement. The thesis for an expository essay can be a statement of fact, but it should still be interesting.
4. Organize your ideas into an outline.
5. Write a rough draft.
6. Revise and edit – use the checklist!
7. Produce a final draft.

Audience: your classmates.

Length: one page

Format: standard MLA

Due Date: Thursday, March 31

