

Name: _____

Date: _____



Mr. Mahoney
Epic Poetry and the Form of Tragedy

The Greatest Hero of *The Trojan War*:

Final Responses for Summer Reading Literature 8

After reading all of Olivia Coolidge's *The Trojan War*, complete the following 4 steps Answer each question in 1-2 paragraphs, unless otherwise prompted.

STEP I: TOPICAL THESIS: What is a perfect hero?

Give and explain a definition of what you think a hero is and what a hero does. Make sure to include in your definition **three characteristics** that a hero must possess –qualities without which a person can not be a hero. (Hints to get you started brainstorming: Should a hero always have courage? What about confidence? What about other virtues, such as humility or honesty? Does a hero always save someone? Does he always risk his life? Does he always have a mission? etc.)

STEP II: CLAIM: Who is the greatest hero?

Who is the most heroic warrior in Olivia Coolidge's *The Trojan War*? **Pick** one character. Then, **show** how that character has all three qualities you mentioned in your response to question 1 above by describing in your own words examples of scenes from what you have just read in Olivia Coolidge's book where the character clearly demonstrates these 3 essential heroic traits.

STEP III: SUPPORT: How is he the greatest hero

Find at least one quote from Olivia Coolidge's *The Trojan War* that shows your chosen hero speaking, acting or being talked about in a way that gives evidence for each of the qualities of his heroism that you mentioned in questions one and two above. You should have at least three quotes in all (one for each characteristic). Then, explain why the quotes you have chosen really do show how the character is heroic.

a.) Heroic characteristic 1:

Quote 1:

Page number in Coolidge:

In your own words, what does this quote show to us and how does it show it (explanation and warrant):

b.) Heroic Characteristic 2: _____

Quote 2:

Page number in Coolidge: _____

In your own words, what does this quote show to us and how (explanation and warrant):

c.) Heroic Characteristic 3:

Quote 3:

Page number in Coolidge:

What does this quote show to us and how (explanation and warrant):

STEP IV: Counter-argument and Refutation:

Pick Two other heroes in Olivia Coolidge's *The Trojan War* that were also possible candidates for being the most heroic warrior of the book. Mention a few reasons why someone might think they are heroic, based upon your definition of the hero. Then, try to argue how these two other heroes are not as heroic as the hero you have chosen and how the hero you have chosen more closely exemplifies the characteristics in your definition of the hero in comparison to these two other possible choices.

a.) **Possible Hero 1:** _____

i.) Reasons and examples why this warrior could be considered the most heroic:

b.) **Possible Hero 2:** _____

i.) Reasons and examples why this warrior could be considered the most heroic:

c.) **Refutation:** Your reasons why both of these heroes are not as heroic as the one you have chosen.

i.) Critique of Possible Hero 1 and comparison with your chosen greatest hero:

ii.) Critique of Possible Hero 2 and comparison with your chosen greatest hero: