



The Hero's Journey Story: A Creative Writing Assignment

Can You Create Your Own Adventure Based on the Stages of The Hero's Journey?

The Hero's Journey Story

Your Task

Plan and create an adventure story that follows the stages of the hero's journey.

Directions

1. Develop your hero using the character map and graphic organizer below.
2. Plan your story using the graphic organizer.
3. Have your story peer edited using *The Hero's Journey Story Rubric* on page 4 of this packet.
4. Make corrections suggested by your peer editor.
5. Hand in your final draft of the story.
6. Students receiving an 'A' or better will be selected at random to share their stories with the class. Sharing is optional..



Your Grade

You will be graded using *The Hero's Journey Story Rubric*. This writing assignment is a major grade for this marking period and is worth 45 points.

CHARACTER MAP

<p>What is Your Hero Trying to Achieve?</p>	<p>Physical Characteristics</p>
<p>Of What is Hero Most Afraid?</p>	<p>Personality Characteristics</p>

Your Hero's Name

The Hero's Story Outline

Stage of the Hero's Journey	How is This Stage Reflected in Your Story?
The Call to Adventure	
Refusal of the Call	
The Beginning of the Adventure	
The Road of Trials	
The Experience with Unconditional Love	
The Ultimate Boon	
Refusal of the Return	
The Magic Flight	
Rescue from Without	
The Crossing or Return Threshold	



The Hero's Journey Story Rubric

CRITERIA	Points	PEER GRADE	TEACHER GRADE
Meaning Student wrote a short story that had a hero who goes through at least 5 of the 10 stages of the Hero's Journey.	5		
Organization Student used the Character Map and Hero's Story Outline to plan their story. The story was logical and easy to understand.	5		
Language Use There are very few spelling, grammar, or punctuation errors in the story. Student attempted to use grade-level or above vocabulary.	5		
Development The student used imagery, details and descriptions throughout the story to make it interesting.	5		
Length The story may be as long as you like, although you will only be evaluated on the first four pages.	5		
Format Story is typed using size 12-point font in either New Times Roman or Aerial and is double-spaced.	5		
Labeling of Stages Student put brackets around each part of their story that identifies a stage of the Hero's Journey. Each stage of the Hero's Journey is CLEARLY labeled next to each set of brackets in their story.	10		
Cool Factor The story was an original idea and held the reader's attention.	5		
TOTALS	45		

Sample Story

Jymeek James

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Period 6

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The Golden Rod

Every summer me, Britz, and Taser go fishing over at Russell Station when the Smelt run down from the Niagara River after they finish spawning. My dad loves Smelt because they're such little fish and it's easy to clean them.

When we arrived on to the west side of the riverbank, Britz and Taser decided to set up near the mouth of the water treatment plant. The Smelt like it there because the water is warmer. I like it downstream, where I get a view of where the river empties into Lake Ontario.

It was a weird day. It's always cloudy in Rochester, but today the gray was all mixed with streaks of green and purple. The air was thick with humidity and you could smell the faint scent of popcorn wafting down from Charlotte Park and the carousel that is almost a mile away.

I was unpacking my rod when I noticed an older guy down the way. You could tell he was a *real* fisherman. Had the hat with all the hooks and flies on it. Had the basket on his hip. A huge tackle box, jar of worms and a bucket of minnows. I stopped and watched as he cast his line over the water. I noticed his rod. It was really cool. It was gold-plated and sparkled! The second his lure hit the water he had a hit.



Sample Story

The fish put up a good fight and the rod bent hard under its pull. Then I realized something amazing. The guy was fishing with no line! I couldn't believe my eyes. How was this possible? Was it a magic fishing poll? I had to find out.

After he put the fish in his bucket, he propped his rod on a tree branch and walked to his car for something. Seizing my opportunity, I grabbed the golden fishing rod and took off on my bike leaving all my stuff and Britz and Taser behind. My heart was pounding. I had never stolen anything before. Even though there was some exhilaration about it, there was also a heavy feeling in my stomach, like I was going to be sick.

It was almost dark by the time I got home. I ditched my bike and began to really examine my prize. I whipped the air with it, using it like a sword. I parried, slashed and touchéd. Then, with one mighty overhead blow, I smacked the side walk in front of the big Elmwood tree that stood in the middle of my apartment complex. A splash of electrified yellow sparks flew from the tip of the rod. They scattered into the sidewalk and headed straight for a giant Elmwood tree. The sparks ran up the tree and spread across every branch and lit the whole thing up light a giant Christmas ornament. I was stunned and stood there in awe as the glow of the magic faded into the night sky. I was awestruck.

Then there was a tap on my shoulder. "Excuse me, son," said a voice from behind me. Startled, I jumped and recognized the hat immediately. It was the old fisherman from whom I had stolen the golden rod.

