

Grade 9-10

Expository Compositions

What Makes Someone Heroic?

Your research paper will be at least 10 paragraphs long. You will provide research from at least 2 sources to support your thesis. You will include a bibliography as well. Follow MLA format, which does not use footnotes.

Identify someone (or some specific, small group) you consider heroic, brave, or successful at something important (not just making money or winning at sports). What makes that person/group successful? What made them undertake that endeavor, project, challenge, or responsibility? What factors specifically led to the success that made that person/group remarkable? (Note: your topic may not have had perfect success. Some stories are a mixture of success and failure, good luck and bad.)

Your essay should not be purely factual. You will also need to provide a thesis, an argument, a perspective, an idea, about your topic. What made that person or group successful? What skills, processes, decisions, choices, circumstances, luck contributed to the success?

You will be using skills from a number of past chapters and past essays. You will be narrating, describing, explaining causes and effects, arguing, perhaps comparing/contrasting, defining....

Your paper should include a thesis (She was successful because...) as well as specific descriptive anecdotes, stories, and examples of how the person/group made decisions, or applied skills, or overcame obstacles, or learned from mistakes, in order to succeed.

Think of the experience of the crew of the Endurance. Their story is one of mistakes, learned lessons, experiments, retreats, successes, compromises, skills, decisions, and luck. In the end they succeeded because their luck, skills, and teamwork outweighed their obstacles and mistakes.

You will use at least 2 print sources (no internet sources') to support and illustrate your paper. You can use books, magazines, journals, and/or newspapers.

We will go over proper citation and MLA format before the paper is due.

Think of examples like Dr. Martin Luther King, Mohandas Gandhi, Cesar Chavez, Amnesty International, Doctors Without Borders, Habitat for Humanity, Jonas Salk, Madame Curie, Nelly Bligh, Sojourner Truth, Norma Rae, Jaime Escalante,

Apollo 13.... Find an example of bravery that impresses you, inspires you, teaches you something you consider valuable.

1. [Rubrics](#)
2. Lesson Plans
3. Sample Essays
4. [Related Assignment](#)
[Related Assignment](#)