

Literature

STUDENT NAME

4/4/13

Fourth Revision

Two of the most prominent characters in the Iliad are Achilles and Agamemnon. While Agamemnon is more often mentioned in the story, Achilles is an equally important character, for the story centers around his rage towards Agamemnon. Achilles is never too far from the reader's mind, even when he is out of action. **This sentence seems like a minor, possibly even irrelevant, point to me. I think you could leave it out.** Although Agamemnon and Achilles were both great warriors, they were very different in the ways they treat **treated** the troops, in how they led the army, and why they were fighting at Troy.

Where the safety of the troops is concerned **this is a little confusing, because in your thesis you refer to their treatment, and here you focus on their safety. While safety measures are part of their treatment, you need to echo the thesis statement and use the safety issue as the major problem with their treatment. OR you can reword your thesis to indicate that your focus on the safety issue.,** Agamemnon and Achilles differed drastically. Agamemnon was not worried about the troops. He called them to go to Troy and asked them to put their lives at risk to win back Helen, his brother's wife. When the need arose, he would not allow his brother to fight against Hector or to go on the night raid with Diomedes, but he urged others to do so. He was more concerned about the safety of his brother, Menelaus, than the army he had called together. Achilles, on the other hand, was concerned with the safety of the troops. Even though he had withdrawn from battle, he sent Patroclus to find out who was hurt when he saw them bringing the wounded back to camp. Unlike Agamemnon, Achilles was willing to send his best friend into battle to help the Greeks when they were pushed up against their ships.

Achilles showed more concern for the safety of the all “the” not needed, rather than for one man who was close to him.

Even though Agamemnon was chosen to lead the Greek army, Achilles was the better leader. Agamemnon cannot encourage the troops. Notice that you switched to present tense here. Also, the sentence was a little confusing. Do you mean that he couldn't figure out how to encourage them? And encourage them to do what? In the beginning of the *Iliad*, he tried to use trickery to encourage them by saying that they should return home. He hoped that they would rise up and defy him, and when his plan did not work, others had to convince the army not to abandon the cause at Troy. He also angered Achilles, the best Greek warrior, causing Achilles to withdraw from the battle. This not only demoralized the Greeks, but also greatly encouraged the Trojans. On the other hand, Achilles was a great leader. He did not even have to be heading out to battle with the troops to be able to encourage them, such as when he inspired the troops before Patroclus led them into battle. Finally able to give up his anger at Agamemnon, he decided to return to battle after Patroclus had died. Agamemnon refused to admit his wrong, though that would have ended Achilles anger and he would have returned to battle sooner. Although Agamemnon was the leader of all the Greek forces at Troy, Achilles would have been better suited to this role, because of his ability to inspire and to set aside personal struggles to help the cause. This paragraph has great detail. I see a switch in your focus, however, after “...Patroclus led them into battle.” Your topic sentence indicates a focus on their leadership, but after this sentence you lose this focus and spend a couple of sentences on the conflict between the two men. While the conflict may relate to the leadership issue, it needs to be reworded to show how the conflict was a leadership issue; otherwise, these sentences should be deleted and other sentences added in that further explain how Achilles inspired the troops. The last sentence is a good summary statement, so you may want to keep that.

Although Achilles and Agamemnon were both fighting for the return of Helen, they were driven by different personal motivations. Agamemnon was more focused on the power he had while he was living rather than the legacy that would live on after he has died. He saw Achilles as a threat to his power, so he humiliated him in front of the Greeks. Later, he was unwilling to apologize for the wrong he had done to Achilles. Also, Agamemnon was overprotective of his brother, because he wanted to make sure he does **did** not lose his power, for if Menelaus died, there would be no reason to stay at Troy and he would no longer be in charge **sentence rambles a bit; divide into two or condense**. In the beginning of the poem, Achilles was more worried about the recognition he would receive after his death than anything else. **The phrase "In the beginning of the poem" threw me off a little, because it seemed to indicate that Achilles changed later in the poem. Since you are switching from a discussion of Agamemnon to Achilles, it may be better to reword to simply say, "Achilles, however, was more worried about..."**This desire was what led to his rage when Agamemnon took away his prize, the maiden, Briseis. She represented the honor he had received in battle, but more importantly, his legacy. One fought for the recognition he would receive while he was alive, while the other fought for the reputation that would live on after his death. **Good summary of the issue**

In the beginning of the Iliad, they **since you are switching paragraphs and moving into your conclusion, repeat their names** were both fighting with each other for selfish reasons and would not admit that they were wrong. Neither of them seemed to care about anything **C – or "but," instead of "except"** except for their argument and could not see beyond their rage. Throughout the poem, Achilles grew into a more admirable character. His motivations were not purely selfish **C and, DC** because of he let go of his rage, he emerged as the better leader. **The conclusion should echo the thesis statement, but instead it seems to focus on their reasons for fighting, instead of their differences (which is the focus of your thesis statement).** Needs to be reworked a bit. I do like your last couple of statements, which seem to wrap up the comparisons you make in your body, so you could keep the idea that he emerged

as the better leader. Just make sure that this observation is derived from the things you are comparing and contrasting.

INTERMEDIATE RUBRIC: EXPOSITORY

GRADING KEY:

GM=GOAL MASTERY

AM=ALMOST-THERE MASTERY

MM=MID-LEVEL MASTERY

LM=LOW-LEVEL MASTERY

NP=NOT PRESENT IN ESSAY

TRAIT 1: STIMULATING IDEAS

_____GM_____ 1. Thesis statement/projected plan are clear and focused on a single idea with a specific purpose.

_____MM_____ 2. Paper includes an introduction with an appropriate hook and a conclusion that echoes and wraps up the main idea.

_____AM_____ 3. Paper uses appropriate details/examples/reasons/evidence/etc.

_____GM_____ 4. Paper shows evidence of effort to interest and/or entertain the reader (enthusiasm, illustrations, etc.).

TRAIT 2: LOGICAL ORGANIZATION

_____AM_____ 5. Paper has well-developed paragraphs (topic sentences with plenty of support and transitions... *The only reason I am giving you AM here is that your paper lacks quotes. Anytime you are doing literary analysis textual evidence is important to support your statements. It's kind of like a research paper but confined to only one source. It's okay to summarize and paraphrase parts of the story as some of your textual evidence, but you also need some direct quotes.*

_____AM_____ 5. ...that follow a clear and logical structure without rambling or irrelevant ideas added.

_____GM_____ 6. Paper provides clear and smooth transitions between paragraphs.

TRAIT 3: ENGAGING VOICE

_____GM_____ 7. Author speaks clearly and seems knowledgeable about the subject.

_____GM_____ 8. Author has a personal voice—paper does not sound like a textbook, unless paper is very formal, or as though it is trying to sound like someone else.

TRAIT 4: EFFECTIVE WORD CHOICE

_____GM_____ 8. Paper seems to be addressing a specific audience and shows attention to it by using appropriate tone and vocabulary, including explanations of any unusual terms.

_____NP_____ 9. Paper is introduced with an appropriate title.

TRAIT 5: EFFECTIVE SENTENCE STYLE

_____GM_____ 10. Paper flows smoothly from one idea to the next—not choppy, rambling, or hard to follow

_____AM_____ 11. Paper maintains a consistent tense—past, present, or future.

TRAIT 6: CORRECT/ ACCURATE COPY

_____AM_____ 12. Paper observes the basic rules of writing (proper spelling, mechanics, and grammar).

_____NA_____ 13. All direct and indirect quotations are supported with appropriate credit tags (such as, “According to so-and-so...” or “So-and-so says in such-and-such book that...”)

_____GM_____ 14. Paper is typed or written neatly with appropriate formatting. This includes the following: 11-, 12-, or 13-point type size, a basic serif font, double-spacing, 1” margins, paragraph indentations, and no extra spaces between paragraphs.

_____NA_____ 15. When published sources are used to support the paper’s ideas, a Works Cited page is included that includes at least the titles and authors. (I do not require this in a paper that analyzes or responds to only one or two works of literature; however, the title and author need to be stated clearly in the paper).

Here is guidance on how to use, format, and document sources for this kind of paper.

<http://writing.wisc.edu/Handbook/QuoLiterature.html>

GENERAL COMMENTS:

NAME, I know I gave you a lot of comments, but you generally have a strong paper here. It has a clear structure and lots of detailed examples, both very important. Let me know if you have any questions or if anything I said confused you. By the way, “C” and “DC” mean “comma” and “delete comma”