**Subject area/course**: Hero Literary Analysis

**Grade level/band**: 11

**Task source**: New Hampshire Task Bank; Author: Kathleen Burnell

**Hero Literary Analysis**

**STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS**

1. **Task context**:

*Essential question:* How does a standard narrative structure help us learn about ourselves and the world around us?

Many stories follow a pattern that is symbolic of the human experience. The hero’s journey and all of its elements help a reader to contextualize and relate to the story as they travel with the hero.

1. **Final product**:

**Your Task:**

1. Follow a writing process to compose an analytical essay that traces the hero’s journey within your novel and analyzes the use of the hero’s journey technique.
2. Explain the elements of the hero’s journey and how those elements relate to the events in your novel.
3. Analyze the author’s use of the hero’s journey. How does the structure of the hero’s journey contribute to the character’s development? Is the use of the hero’s journey an effective way to show this development? Be sure to use specific examples to support your reasoning.
4. Conclude your essay with an observation about what you have learned as you analyzed the hero’s journey. Did the technique reflect something in your own life or in contemporary society?
5. Include multiple correctly cited examples from both the novel and additional texts, if used, to support your analysis.

**Additional Information**

1. **Knowledge and skills you will need to demonstrate on this task:**
* Students will know the specific text features that are related to each of the following purposes for writing:
	+ Express and Reflect
	+ Inform and Explain
	+ Evaluate and Judge
	+ Analyze and Interpret
* Students will know that there are patterns such as the hero cycle that inform the structure of most literature.
* Students will know how to cite specific evidence to support their claims in writing.
* Students will know correct MLA formatting.
* Students will be able to identify in reading author’s purpose and reproduce in their own writing the following:
	+ Express and Reflect
	+ Inform and Explain
	+ Evaluate and Judge
	+ Analyze and Interpret
* Students will increase reading stamina and complexity through choice reading.
* Students will use literature circles, writing, and Socratic seminars to make connections and communicate ideas, questions, needs, and opinions effectively.
1. **Materials needed:**
* Hero Cycle Chart
* Hero Cycle Graphic
* Hero Cycle Formative
* Quote Integration/Transition Words/Works Cited Guide
* Student instructions and Rubric
1. **Time requirements:**

This task is designed to take place over the course of 2-3 weeks. Your teacher will provide you with more information about the timing of each piece of the task.

1. **Scoring:**

Your work will be scored using the Hero Literary Analysis rubric. You should make sure you are familiar with the language that describes the expectations for proficient performance.