Gilgamesh

Handout 3

Directions:

Consider all you have learned about heroes, archetypes, and epics as you answer the following questions. Use the space below the questions to brainstorm and prewrite. Answer the prompts on a separate sheet of paper.

Writing Prompt 1:

How does Gilgamesh exemplify an epic poem? Provide textual support for your answer.

Writing Prompt 2:

Even though the great early epics are full of action, they also show keen psychological insight. Gilgamesh and Enkidu are guided by internal needs and plagued by fears and doubts. Write about some of the emotional and psychological struggles you see represented in Gilgamesh. How do these struggles connect an ancient epic to a modern reader? Make sure you provide textual support for your answer.