**Honors English 9**

**"The Hero's Journey"**

**Story Analysis Assignment**

**Assignment:** You will read a book of your choice and analyze it in terms of the Hero's Journey discussed in class.

**Purpose:** To become aware of how universal the archetype of The Hero's Journey is and to help you understand another frame for analyzing a book.

**Audience:** You can assume that the person reading this paper has already read the book. Concentrate on your analysis of the story, rather than summarizing it.

**Guidelines:**

1. Analysis must be typed.
2. Complete the reading of your book. It is very important that you are able to read the book carefully. Some re-reading and careful note-taking may be necessary.
3. Complete the chart on the other side of this sheet as you read the book.
4. Write four paragraphs which explain the journey of the hero. Include specific examples and quotations from the book. The following list is just a list; you need to add the necessary transitions and filler to make your essay readable and interesting.

1st: Identify the book, the "hero", and their home.

2nd: Describe the threshold and the hero’s crossing of it. Include the specifics--their call to adventure, threshold guardians, etc.

3rd: Describe their challenges and temptations. You don't need to include every challenge, just those that are important to the development of the character.

4th: Describe the hero’s abyss and their transformation. Don't forget to include the specifics.

5th: Conclude your essay with a paragraph explaining how the film showed or didn't show the hero's atonement and return. This paragraph should include your own conclusions on whether or not this was done satisfactorily. Relate this hero's experiences to yourself and/or the world--in other words, what can we all learn from this hero's journey?

**Grading:** This assignment will be worth ***30 points***. The chart on the back of this sheet is worth 6 points, and the paper analyzing the story will be worth 24 points.

**Book Title\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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| The Hero: Who is the hero? |  |
| What is the hero’s quest?  (This may change—be sure to include everything that might be the quest) |  |
| What is their call to adventure and who is their spiritual aid? |  |
| When does the hero cross the threshold? Who assists them? |  |
| Identify the challenges and temptations the hero faces before reaching their abyss. |  |
| Identify the event that marks the hero’s abyss |  |
| What specific actions does the hero take that show s/he has been transformed? |  |
| When does the hero return? How is s/he different than before the journey began? |  |