

Tragic Hero Essay

William Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar* is classified as a tragedy; therefore, we must identify the main character and his downfall. Using specific examples from the drama and "Aristotle's Concept of Tragedy," prove the identity of the tragic hero. Your essay must analyze **all** of the qualities of the tragic hero.

Body Paragraphs

Each body paragraph should have strong **Claims** connected to the thesis statement.

- Each paragraph should contain two to three quotes or quote bits to illustrate a quality or characteristic. (As always, you must weave your quotes.) Quotes are like pictures in a book. They do not tell the story; they illustrate it. You are the storyteller. Do not depend on your quotes to prove your point. What you say about your quote (how you logically tie your quotes into your argument) should prove your point. You should be able to take your quotes out of your paper and the logic and sense of your point should still be there. You need to discuss each quote and show how it illuminates the point you are making. Never expect the reader to do this for himself. You must show the reader why the particular quote you chose is relevant to the point you are making. This means you will always discuss each quote you use to show how it illustrates your point.

The three steps in proving a point are:

1. Make a statement (**Claim**)
2. Use a quote or quote bit to illustrate your point (**Support**)
3. Analysis: logically show the reader how the particular quote or example proves your point (**Explanation**)

You will have one class period to type this essay. You must come to class with an outline and your quotes or quote bits already chosen. There will not be time to write a thorough well-developed essay otherwise. The essay is due at the end of the hour. Preparation is necessary for success.