**The Epic (Pages 365-367)**  
Epic: a long narrative poem that recounts the adventures of an epic hero.  
Epic Hero: a larger-than-life figure who undertakes great journeys and performs deeds requiring remarkable strength and cunning.  
  
The Epic at a Glance  
Epic Hero:

* Possesses superhuman strength, craftiness, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is helped and harmed by interfering \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Embodies \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that a culture considers admirable
* Emerges victorious from \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ situations

Epic Plot:  
Involves a long journey, full of complications, such as

* Strange \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Divine \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-scale events
* Treacherous \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Epic Setting:

* Includes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lands
* Involves more than one \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Archetypes:  
All epics include archetypes—characters, situations, and images that are recognizable in many times and cultures:

* Sea \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Wicked \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Buried \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Suitors’ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Epic \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Loyal \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Epic Themes:  
Reflect such universal concerns as

* Courage
* The fate of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Beauty
* Loyalty
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Terms to Know:

* Epithet:
* Allusion:
* Epic Simile:

**Write an Epic Simile comparing something difficult/heroic with something commonplace from our time. Your similes must be 4 lines long, with each line being 10-11 syllables long. Think about situations of danger or challenge in our world to use in your simile.**

**Trying to make my slow computer work**

**Feels like trying to make my students**

**Write an epic simile on the day**

**Before the break when they can’t wait to leave.**

**Having to read and grade sixty projects**

**Is like walking through a deep muddy path**

**With big boots that get stuck in the goo,**

**Making me so tired and frustrated.**