***The Odyssey* Personal Reflection Essay**

Odysseus is not perfect; he is flawed like every man and woman. Although epic heroes like Odysseus may have superhuman abilities, they still have human flaws. These flaws make the heroes more complex and appealing because the audience can relate to their mistakes. Like Odysseus, we all have our own strengths and weaknesses which make us more complex, realistic, and human. Review the list of personal strengths and weaknesses on the back of this sheet, and take a moment to pick your most valuable strength and your most vulnerable weakness. Write a four-paragraph essay analyzing one of your strengths and weaknesses. Please follow the format below:

Introduction:

* Hook
* Background – introduce readers to you and the idea of how all humans, like heroes, have strengths and weakness (3-5 sentences)
* Thesis – State your strength and your weakness

Body Paragraph 1:

* State your most valuable strength.
* EV: Prove that you have this strength (first example of a time you have demonstrated this quality)
* Explain with two sentences how this example shows this strength.
* EV: Prove that you have this strength (second example of a time you have demonstrated this quality)
* Explain with two sentences how this example shows this strength.
* Concluding Sentence- state why you have an advantage or why this trait makes you a better/stronger person

Body Paragraph 2:

* State your weakness.
* EV: Prove that you have this weakness (first example of a time you have demonstrated this quality).
* Explain with two sentences how this example shows this weakness.
* EV: Prove that you have this weakness (second example of a time you have demonstrated this quality).
* Explain with two sentences how this example shows this weakness.
* Concluding Sentence- state why you need to work on improving this weakness.

Conclusion:

* Restate your strength and weakness (thesis)
* **Reflect on why you are proud to have this particular strength AND how you could improve upon this weakness**
* **Why this attempt is important**
* Universal idea: What can we learn from this paper? What did you learn about yourself?