

Epic of Gilgamesh Journal Entries

As you read the epic you **must** keep a journal. Your journal must be hand-written (unless otherwise noted) and kept in the same folder (any type). These journal entries must answer all items asked for to be considered complete. *Be sure to date and label each entry in your journal.* This journal will be used to assist you in your formal evaluation (both in class and take home) of the epic after the regular school year begins. Be prepared to submit this journal on the first official day of class.

JOURNAL #1

Look up and write the definition of the word EPIC (cite your source) then answer the following question. What roles do epics play (if any) in our modern world today? *Explain and Defend* your answer.

JOURNAL #2

Cuneiform (Latin: "cuneus" = wedge, "forma" = shape) writing is the type of writing invented by Sumerians of Mesopotamia who wrote with long reeds on clay tablets while the clay was wet. Students will learn more about cuneiform by going to http://www.mesopotamia.co.uk/writing/home_set.html

First you must read through the information provided under Story and then write in your Journal (as entry # 2) a one paragraph summary (in your own words) of the information stated.

Second, you must click on Explore and explore the different objects used by a scribe from Mesopotamia. Choose any two and compare them with a modern equivalent.

Third, click on the Challenge. After you have completed the Challenge answer the question that follows.

Why is the Challenge referred to as The Never Ending Puzzle?

JOURNAL #3

Gilgamesh is considered the first hero of written history. What is a hero? Write a paragraph that lists five qualities/characteristics that you think make a hero. Now give two specific examples of a hero who meet your qualities/characteristics.

JOURNAL #4 COMPLETE AFTER READING TABLET VIII (Eight) or Chapter #3 (Ishtar and Gilgamesh, and the Death of Enkidu)

I wish I could see _____ again (fill in the blank and write your reason/rationale in a brief paragraph why you would wish this).

JOURNAL #5 COMPLETE AFTER READING TABLET XI (Eleven) or Chapter #5 (The Story of the Flood)

After reading the above find a Bible and read from the Old Testament Genesis chapters 6-9. Upon completion answer the following: (1 paragraph for each below)

- 1) Summarize (in your own words) what happened in each story.
- 2) In your own words describe some of the similarities between the stories. (cite specific lines/passages from each).
- 3) In your own words describe some of the differences between the two stories? (cite specific lines/passages from each).

JOURNAL #6

In your opinion, what sort of a king is Gilgamesh? Choose any person from modern times (since you have been born) whom you think is most like Gilgamesh and explain your reason(s) why.

JOURNAL #7

For each of the following provide a brief description. The first one has been done for you

People

Gilgamesh – the main character of the story and ruler of the city of Uruk. He is 1/3 human and 2/3 god.

Enkidu

Shamhat

Lugalbanda

Urshanabi

Utnapishtim

Siduri

Gods/Goddesses

Rimat-Ninsun

Anu

Enlil

Adad

Ishtar

Tammuz

Sin

Ea/Enki

Igigi

Anunnaki

Ereshkigal

Beasts and Monsters

Humbaba/Khumbaba

Bull of Heaven

Scorpion people

Places

Uruk

Eanna

Tigris and Euphrates

Nippur