TOPIC: An Introduction to Heroes & Heroines

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES: Reading for information and organizing information.

INSTRUCTIONS:
Notebooks will be required to record responses.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Write a definition for the word hero. Write a definition for the word heroine. Compare your definitions with another person’s definitions. Compare your definitions with the entries in a dictionary.

2. Brainstorm and list as many heroes/heroines as you can.

3. Create a chart to categorize or group these people under appropriate headings such as sports heroes/heroines, television heroes/heroines, political heroes/heroines, everyday heroes/heroines, etc. Sort the people on your brainstorm list into the best category.

4. Choose one hero/heroine and create a word web of the heroic characteristics that this person possesses. Choose a hero/heroine from another category and create word web of their heroic characteristics.

5. Examine your two word webs. In your notebook, list the heroic characteristics that these people share. Think of other heroes/heroines and add to your list of characteristics.

6. Use this information to create a checklist of qualities a person or character should have to be a hero/heroine. You will use this checklist in future activities.
An Introduction to Heroes & Heroines (cont’d)

Reading and writing skills

Students will require a newspaper for the activities. The Internet may also be used to access a local newspaper.

ACTIVITIES:

Reading ..... 

1. Predict which sections of the newspaper would have stories and articles about heroes/heroines. Sometimes this type of news is called a human interest story.

2. Scan the newspaper for articles and news stories about heroes. Note the sections that contain these articles and stories.

3. Choose one article or news story to read.
Before reading:
- Use the reading strategy of scanning to identify name, date and place.
- Use the reading strategy of skimming to identify the main idea of the article.

4. Read the article in depth to summarize the article.
While reading, ask yourself these questions:
- What are the main points or events in the story?
- Who are the people involved in the story?

5. In your notebook, write a summary of the article.

6. In your notebook, list the characteristics of the hero/heroine from the article or news story. Compare this list to your checklist. Highlight similarities and note differences between the lists. Use this information to revise your checklist.
Writing ....

7. Based on the article or news story you have read, develop a main idea to explain why the person is a hero or heroine. Write a sentence in your notebook stating your main idea.

8. Brainstorm a list of reasons to support your main idea. Write this list in your notebook.

9. Write a paragraph to explain why this person is a hero/heroine.
   • State your main idea in a topic sentence.
   • Support your topic sentence with detailed information.

10. Revise and edit your writing.
    • Is the main idea clear?
    • Are the details sequenced to support the topic sentence?
    • Is all the information relevant to the main idea?
    • Are the sentences in the paragraph clear and complete?
    • Does the concluding sentence summarize the main idea of the paragraph?

11. Proofread your writing.
    • Check punctuation.
    • Check spelling.
    • Check paragraph format (indented and legible).

12. Read your paragraph to someone.
HOME STUDY ACTIVITIES

Language Arts - Grade 7

TOPIC: Hero & Heroine Characteristics

FOCUS OF ACTIVITIES: Reading, writing and listening skills

INSTRUCTIONS:
Students will require a newspaper or magazine for the activities. The Internet may also be used to access a local newspaper.

ACTIVITIES:

Reading.....

1. Select a magazine or newspaper article about a hero or heroine.
   Before Reading:
   • use the reading strategy of skimming to identify the main idea of the article.

2. Read the article in depth to summarize the article.
   During reading, ask yourself these questions:
   • What are the main points or events in the story?
   • Who are the people involved in the story?

3. In your notebook, write a summary of the article.

4. In your notebook, list the heroic characteristics of the person. Use your checklist to assess their heroic qualities. Note the similarities and differences between the lists.

Viewing.....

5. Select a television show with a character who is a hero or heroine.
   Before viewing:
   • predict the qualities and characteristics the hero/heroine in the show will demonstrate.
6. View the television show closely to summarize the segment. During viewing, ask yourself these questions:
   • Who are the people involved in the story?
   • What are the main events of the story?
   • Did you confirm or change your predictions about the characteristics of the television hero/heroine?

7. In your notebook, write a summary of the segment.

8. In your notebook, list the heroic characteristics of the character. Use your checklist to assess the heroic qualities of that character.