

Name _____

Period _____

The Heroic Figure Colored Pencil drawing

Wells Art 7/8

Definition/ Thesis statement:

A hero is someone who _____



The hero in Greek culture

Greek civilization flourished around **500 B.C.** as Alexander the Great was conquering lands (including Egypt) around the Mediterranean sea. Greek culture, now considered the model for western civilization, valued perfection, precision, grace, harmony and the search for **ultimate beauty**. Mythical **Heroes and Gods** were used as examples to give people examples of behavior and beliefs in order to constantly **improve society**. Architecture, painting, sculpture and athletic events displayed these attributes throughout the society. In addition, popular stories (myths) and epic poems were told by traveling minstrels who would wander the country side reciting their tales in exchange for food and lodging. **Homer**, a blind poet, is accredited with the famous poems "**The Iliad**" and the "**Odyssey**" describing Odysseus' 20 year journey from his home to fight in the Trojan war, and his struggle to return home after angering the gods. These images and stories bound the Greek culture together until being defeated by the Romans in 197 B.C.

Draw it/ Write about it

Materials: Drawing paper, colored pencils, typed short story.

Activity: This project has two parts.

1) A finished drawing with the following elements:

- A decorative **motif** patterned after the Greek examples
- One human-like figure shadowed to show depth in color.
- A complete composition (think about the Principles of Art)

2) A written explanation that identifies why your drawing is an example of a heroic figure.

-The written assignment may be a fictional story or a factual report about the character. Papers may be in third person (no "I"), typed, and free from errors in spelling, punctuation and grammar. The definition above should be used as a thesis statement.

50 POINTS TOTAL