Cecile Student

English

Mrs. Graves

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Tragic Hero

According to Aristotle, the tragic hero describes a good man of high status who displays a tragic flaw, experiences a dramatic reversal, and an intense moment of recognition. Achilles fulfills his role in Homer’s The Iliad as the tragic hero because he has these characteristics.

Achilles is seen as a good man of high status who displays a fatal, tragic flaw. Achilles has genuine morals that coincide with the common morals of his time. He believed in giving a proper burial for Patroclus. If it wasn’t for this belief Achilles would not have joined the war after sulking for so long. Achilles prolonged the burial of Hector, because he thought he was justified for avenging his fallen comrade Patroclus. Eventually, he paid his respects and returned Hectors body to King Priam because the God’s willed it to happen. Achilles always welcomed his visitors kindly, he offered them food even though he was upset and refused to fight in the war. When they arrived, he said “Come, a bigger wine bowl, son of Menoetius, set it here. Mix stronger wine. A cup for the hands of each guest - here beneath my roof are the men I love most. (Homer, 242-245)” Although Achilles had two options for his fate; he selected a short, glorious life to avenge his friend. Achilles believed in fate and the destiny you had to attain.

Achilles’s high status comes from his fighting skills and prizes won in battle. Everyone respects Achilles; he’s powerful and can fight in combat better than any other Greeks. His fighting prowess comes from his partial immortality gained from Thetis his mother. His skills become of great importance to the Greeks in reaching victory. King Agamemnon who dislikes Achilles for arguing against his power comes to realize that the Greeks cannot win the war without him. His eternal glory bestowed in his destiny; also exemplifies his high status over other common men.

Correct style and usage in the above essay. Consider the following:

-comma usage

-apostrophe usage

-semi-colon usage

-contractions

-formatting

-quotes

-titles

\*Do not “fix” the content.