

## **TYPE 3 WRITING: Compare and Contrast Epics Across Cultures Prompt**

In a well-written essay, compare the English epic *Beowulf* with either the Sumerian / Babylonian epic *Gilgamesh* or the Greek epic *the Iliad*, while meeting the FCA's and the general guidelines for submission. Any aspect of the two works can be juxtaposed (character, culture, setting, theme, language, conventions, etc.)

**FCA #1:** Compose a well-structured introductory paragraph using the inverted pyramid approach that includes a focused thesis statement containing a specific comparison between *Beowulf* and either *Gilgamesh* or *the Iliad* as the last sentence of the first paragraph. (10 pts.)

**FCA #2:** Include *at least* two body paragraphs that begin with a clear and specific controlling idea as the first sentence of each paragraph. (10 pts.)

**FCA #3** Weave or introduce *at least* four (4) pieces of textual evidence from the primary sources (2 from each epic) and two (2) pieces of textual evidence from the provided outside source(s) in support of the thesis, that are cited correctly according to MLA. (60 pts.)

**FCA #4** Include strong analysis in support of the evidence that expresses why/how the selected evidence validates the overall claim / thesis. (10 pts.)

**FCA #5:** Produce a well-structured, organized essay that meets the general MLA format / requirements, including a properly formatted Works Cited page as the last page of the paper. (10 pts.)

### **NOTE: General Guidelines**

1. The entire paper should be doubled spaced, including the Heading and the Works Cited page, following all MLA guidelines to writing a research paper
2. The essay should include page numbers, at the top of the page properly formatted according to MLA
3. The only font you can use is Times New Roman size 12
4. The Works Cited page should begin on a new page, and needs to be formatted correctly

### **Primary Sources**

Raffel, Burton, trans. *Beowulf*. New York: Penguin, 2008. Print.

Homer. *The Iliad*. Trans. Robert Fagles. New York, NY, U.S.A.: Viking, 1990. Print.

Mason, Herbert, trans. *Gilgamesh: A Verse Narrative*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1971. Print.

### **Secondary Sources**

Downes, Jeremy M. *Recursive Desire: Rereading Epic Tradition*. Tuscaloosa: U of Alabama, 1997. *Google Books*. Web.

Nardo, Don. "Gilgamesh and the Search for Immortality." *Quests and Journeys*. San Diego, CA: Lucent, 2002. 11-24. Print.

Grant, Michael. "The *Iliad* and the Heroic Ideal." *Readings on Homer*. By Don Nardo. San Diego: Greenhaven, 1998. 90-95. Print.

Chickering, Howell D., Jr. "Heroic and Social Codes in *Beowulf*." *Readings on Beowulf*. By Stephen P. Thompson. San Diego: Greenhaven, 1998. 38-44. Print.