

## Unit 6 Assignment: Part I Tip Sheet

This assignment is an opportunity to see the many ways you have been the hero of a quest narrative.

You are probably already familiar with the quest narrative from the plots of almost every movie. Regardless of genre, movies usually show a character on some kind of quest: facing challenges, overcoming adversity, and changing in some way. Your quest need not have dragons, villains, or a musical soundtrack, but the hero will have faced either external or internal obstacles. The internal obstacles can be a way to select just the right story to tell. For this assignment, think of times in your life when you have overcome resistance, procrastination, or lack of resources. How did you become more disciplined, persistent, optimistic, or determined?

In this assignment, you will share this journey and inspire others to similar actions. The quest narrative you share should be true, but you can address it to a fictional audience.

Do be sure to carefully read the text's discussion of the quest narrative. In Part II of this assignment, you will demonstrate how you used the concepts of literature from the chapter in your quest narrative for Part I. Thus, you want to be sure to have those concepts mindfully in place.

**It is helpful to think of Part I of the quest narrative through four decisions.**

1) What is my quest? 2) Which genre will I use to write it? 3) Which of the concepts from the reading could be useful in helping me to tell this story in an interesting way? 4) Who is my audience? Who do I want to encourage to take on a challenge as I did?

### 1) What is my quest?

You are welcome to go beyond this list, but here are some examples to help you generate ideas for the narrative.

- Taking up a fitness routine or new way of eating
- Pursuing your education
- Facing an illness, addiction, or loss
- Changing careers
- Joining the military
- Moving to a new place
- Becoming a parent
- Getting married
- Learning a language
- Conquering a fear

### 2) Which genre will I use to write it?

Choose one of the following as your genre for your quest narrative. If you want to go beyond this list, check with your instructor.

- A letter

- A poem
- A short story
- A play or monologue
- A screenplay or storyboard for a film

**3) Which of the concepts from the reading could be useful in helping me to tell my story in an interesting way?**

Look for the bold or italicized concepts in the reading. Here are a few to consider, but you can find others in the reading:

- Theme
- Perceptual metaphor
- Conceptual metaphor
- Simile
- Image
- Symbol
- Irony
- Diction

**4) Who will be my audience? Who do I want to encourage to take on a challenge as I did?**

As you write, it helps to have a target audience. Since part of the assignment is to call another person to action, selecting a potential reader (even a hypothetical one) can help you to target the writing and focus on persuading someone in particular. Here are some options:

- A friend
- A family member
- A child
- A hypothetical child or grandchild in the future
- A colleague
- A neighbor
- Someone you have never met