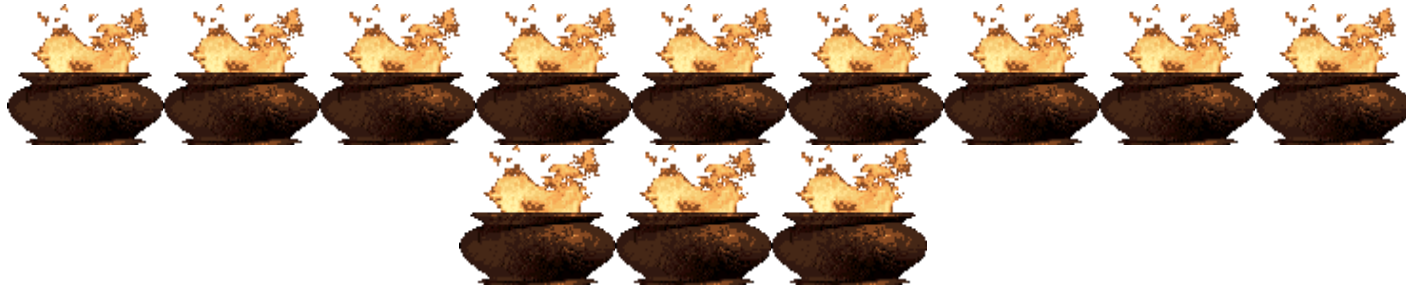


MACBETH & KING ARTHUR



Contrasting and Comparing the Legendary Men of British Literature!

WCUSD5 WebQuest - Tammy Guehne



Introduction



- ❖ Here begins a voyage of discovery venturing into the world of England and British literature.
- ❖ Macbeth and King Arthur, one known for treachery and tyranny and the other known for bravery and courage, are two of the greatest stories from England's literary history, and their impact on the legends and heroic myths remains a hallmark of the study of early British Literature. However, the scope of tragedy may only be based on whether one looks at the fictional characters or their factual counterparts.
- ❖ This web quest, comparing and contrasting the legends and factual figures of King Arthur and Macbeth, is a comprehensive study in which students experience the world of medieval bravery and barbarism, fierce loyalties and heroic legends, swords and shields, and other cultural hallmarks. Students are exposed to an in-depth, reasoning/research project: relating English history and classical literary themes to research writing and analytical thinking.





the Task



In this Web Quest students will be working in groups of six. Each group will research the timeless figures Macbeth and King Arthur. Each person in the group will have a specific role:

ROLE 1: Macbeth (fictional character) Historian

ROLE 2: Macbeth (actual character) Historian

ROLE 3: King Arthur (fictional character) Historian

ROLE 4: King Arthur (actual character) Historian

ROLE 5: Information Coordinator

ROLE 6: Creative Master Mind

Your task will be to create a power point presentation comparing and contrasting these two major British literary pieces and their characters, and each presentation will consist of the

following slides:

- 1. Introductory slide**
- 2. Three slides comparing/contrasting the historical/fictional Macbeth**
- 3. Three slides comparing/contrasting the historical/fictional Arthur**
- 4. The similarities of both historical characters**
- 5. The differences of both fictional characters**
- 6. Why they can be considered a legendary hero or villain**
- 7. Conclusion - Final thoughts on topic**
- 8. Credit slide (bibliography)**





Process



After choosing roles, but before beginning your task, brainstorm areas that will be focused on in the quest.

Ask the following questions and turn one copy in to your teacher.

- 1. What is a hero?**
- 2. What is a villain?**
- 2. Why are these characters considered legendary?**
- 3. How did they live? How did they die? (think symbolically here, not just physically)**
- 4. What are the major differences between the "real" character and the fictional one?**
- 4. What are the main themes, or main ideas in these legendary stories?**
- 5. What values does the hero seem to represent? How does he use his power? How does he treat other people? How do the villain's actions compare to the hero's? How are these characters similar to each other (personality, personal background, etc)? How are they different?**

6. What are the main conflicts that these characters face?
7. How did the times that they lived in affect them (think chivalry, wyrd, wyrgild)?

NOTE: Try to not always state the obvious or the most common piece of information.



Sample Comparison Worksheet

(Use this to guide your thoughts)

Macbeth and King Arthur

Elements for Comparison

	Macbeth		King Arthur	
	Real	Fictional	Real	Fictional
Fighting an enemy				
Mission (a search for something symbolic)				
Hero				
Danger				

Love				
Moral Dilemma				
Loyalty				
Hope for the future				

Good versus Evil				
Advisor (someone who helps the hero)				



Evaluation



Power Point Evaluation

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Presentation	Well-rehearsed with smooth delivery that holds audience attention.	Rehearsed with fairly smooth delivery that holds audience attention most of the time.	Delivery not smooth, but able to maintain interest of the audience most of the time.	Delivery not smooth and audience attention often lost.
Content	Covers topic in-depth with details and examples. Subject knowledge is excellent.	Includes essential knowledge about the topic. Subject knowledge appears to be good.	Includes essential information about the topic but there are 1-2 factual errors.	Content is minimal OR there are several factual errors.

Originality	Product shows a large amount of original thought. Ideas are creative and inventive.	Product shows some original thought. Work shows new ideas and insights.	Uses other people's ideas (giving them credit), but there is little evidence of original thinking.	Uses other people's ideas, but does not give them credit.
Attractiveness	Makes excellent use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance the presentation.	Makes good use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. to enhance to presentation.	Makes use of font, color, graphics, effects, etc. but occasionally these detract from the presentation content.	Use of font, color, graphics, effects etc. but these often distract from the presentation content.
Workload	The workload is divided and shared equally by all team members.	The workload is divided and shared fairly by all team members, though workloads may vary from person to person.	The workload was divided, but one person in the group is viewed as not doing his/her fair share of the work.	The workload was not divided OR several people in the group are viewed as not doing their fair share of the work.
Requirements	All requirements are met and exceeded.	All requirements are met.	One requirement was not completely met.	More than one requirement was not completely met.
Mechanics	No misspellings or grammatical errors.	Three or fewer misspellings and/or mechanical errors.	Four misspellings and/or grammatical errors.	More than 4 errors in spelling or grammar.



Conclusion



Upon completion of this Web Quest, you should have a better understanding of both the historical and legendary characters Macbeth and King Arthur, as well as the culture of Britain during the Medieval period. The villain and hero you have studied showed treachery, deceit, evil, greed, courage, perseverance, and loyalty; however, remember that these are not just stories of by-gone days, but stories of characters that have led both actual and fictional lives of power and glory that have reached all the way to modern times.



