Assessment of discussion posts: Good-Excellent

This student’s early post (response to question #3) shows good detail, responsiveness to the state of the conversation on the discussion board, and synthesis from different texts. Her second post (#4) likewise tries to see the various dimensions of a character, rather than making a simple emotional value judgment. She backs it up with evidence. The late post (#7) is not as strong as the others, but gives the assumption by which she makes her judgment (rhetoric is important, therefore Ulysses wins the contest).

Early post:

Thread:
Dog people - large and small

Post:
RE: Dog people - large and small

Posted Date:
September 29, 2015 5:07 PM

Status:
Published

That's a good point that Artemis would make him wish he had killed her if he doesn't. It wasn't uncommon for Greeks to make sacrifices at that time, but were they used to sacrificing humans, let alone their children, rather than just animals? Also, around line 228ish, he shows that not even Iphigenia crying out could change his mind. This makes me wonder if this has something to do with the gods, because as we saw in The Odyssey, the gods can pretty much control your mind. Aeschylus presents this as a very emotional, indecisive time. Agamemnon's subjects are crying and around line 222, he says "the sickening in men's minds, tough, reckless in fresh cruelty". Killing another person, who is innocent in all aspects, has to have a mental impact on them.

Middle post:
Thread:
A week in a large European city, with culture and art, sounds great.

Post: RE: A week in a large European city, with culture and art, sounds great.

Posted Date: November 8, 2015 8:25 PM
Status: Published

I agree that I would want it to be a positive tribute rather than one that brings emotional turmoil. The depiction of Aeneas' actions when he comes upon the mural (Lines 567-572) are understandable...But it makes me wonder what about seeing these gruesome images of defeats, rather than victories, makes him think that it would be safe to stay in that city. I would personally be more wary of the fact that this strange land is almost celebrating my failures. While there are some similarities to Odysseus' encounter with Phaiacians, I think there are more differences. Like Joey said, there is difference in how the memories are triggered. Also, Odysseus almost always had a face on when he was around people...whether that be a brave face, or a face that would exaggerate his true feelings to get what he was desiring. Aeneas on the other hand has no shame in showing just how emotional reliving that time of his life was.

Late post:

Thread:
Myth class is a lot more work than I thought it would be

Post: RE: Myth class is a lot more work than I thought it would be

Author:
Ulysses definitely won the contest in my book as well. As some of the other students have mentioned, Ulysses holds a stronger argument. None of the iconic leaders of the world (Muhammed Ali, Fidel Castro, even Hitler) would have become as influential without being good public speakers. Even Ovid states "...and made the speech they awaited. His eloquence did not disappoint". Ulysses also incorporated more of his accomplishments while Ajax tried to use reasoning that justified him being entitled to the armor. While Ulysses does mention his noble background and other self-proclaiming aspects, he counters it by saying "I do not count a noble lineage as one’s own accomplishment". Rewards should be given to those who deserve them, not those who want them just to brag about having them...Therefore, Ulysses has my vote.