

Motives of Aeneas Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

1. **Leaving Troy:** Aeneas carries Anchises because of **pietas** (duty to his family and ancestors). His actions show loyalty and respect, placing family above personal safety.
2. **Departing Carthage:** Aeneas leaves Dido because the gods (through Mercury) remind him of his greater duty to found Rome. His personal desire is sacrificed for **destiny**.
3. **Journey to the Underworld:** He seeks the Sibyl's guidance and carries the golden bough because he must understand Rome's future and gain his father Anchises's counsel. This reflects his **acceptance of fate**.
4. **Forming Alliances:** Aeneas allies with King Evander to gain strength against Turnus and to secure a lasting partnership for Rome's future. This shows his **political foresight and sense of responsibility**.
5. **Killing Turnus:** At first he considers sparing Turnus, but when he sees Pallas's belt on Turnus, his grief and anger over Pallas's death push him to kill. His decision reflects both **personal vengeance** and **justice**.