

Aeneas on Trial: Evidence of a Hero Answer Key

(Sample Responses)

1. Pietas

- Evidence: Aeneas carries his father Anchises out of burning Troy while also leading his son Ascanius to safety.
- Explanation: Shows his devotion to both family and duty, fulfilling his role as protector.

2. Leadership

- Evidence: Aeneas organizes funeral games in Sicily to honor Anchises and keep morale high among the Trojans.
- Explanation: Demonstrates his ability to guide and unify his people through ritual and respect.

3. Bravery

- Evidence: He faces Turnus in single combat to end the war.
- Explanation: Shows courage in risking his own life to secure peace and destiny.

4. Compassion

- Evidence: Aeneas initially considers sparing Turnus after defeating him.
- Explanation: Reveals his ability to feel mercy, even for enemies.

5. Emotional Struggle

- Evidence: His torn feelings when leaving Dido, balancing love and destiny.
- Explanation: Shows his humanity and the pain of sacrificing personal happiness.

6. Respect for Fate

- Evidence: Aeneas leaves Carthage after Mercury's command, despite his feelings.
- Explanation: Demonstrates his acceptance that destiny outweighs personal desire.