

Name _____

The Quixote Debate Answer Key

Possible Evidence of Foolishness:

- Don Quixote mistakes windmills for giants and is injured.
- He imagines Dulcinea as a noble lady when she is a peasant.
- His "help" often causes harm, like freeing prisoners who then attack him.

Possible Evidence of Heroism:

- He commits himself to defending the helpless and seeking justice.
- His bravery inspires Sancho Panza and entertains readers.
- His persistence shows the power of believing in ideals despite ridicule.

Sample Opening Statement (Both):

"Don Quixote is both foolish and heroic. He is foolish because his delusions often lead to comic disasters, like tilting at windmills. Yet he is heroic because he follows his ideals of honor, bravery, and justice in a world that mocks him. Cervantes shows us that sometimes foolish dreams can still carry noble truth."