

Name: _____
 ELA 8 FINAL EXAM

Date: _____
 Team: _____

Heroes come in all shapes and size, all forms and styles. Courage is something that everybody wants — an attribute of good character that makes us worthy of respect. Yet courage is not just physical bravery. History books tell colorful tales of social activists, such as Martin Luther King and Nelson Mandela, who chose to speak out against injustice at great personal risk. Entrepreneurs such as Steve Jobs and Walt Disney, who took financial risks to follow their dreams and innovate are like modern-day knights, exemplifying the rewards and public accolades that courage can bring. There are different types of courage, ranging from physical strength and endurance, to mental stamina and innovation.

The six most common types of courage include:

Feeling Fear Yet Choosing to Act-

- I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the triumph over it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear — Nelson Mandela
- Being terrified but going ahead and doing what must be done—that's courage. The one who feels no fear is a fool, and the one who lets fear rule him is a coward. — Piers Anthony
- Courage is about doing what you're afraid to do. There can be no courage unless you're scared. Have the courage to act instead of react." — Oliver Wendell Holmes

Following Your Heart-

- And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary. — Steve Jobs
- Passion is what drives us crazy, what makes us do extraordinary things, to discover, to challenge ourselves. Passion is and should always be the heart of courage. — Midori Komatsu

Persevering in the Face of Adversity-

- Courage doesn't always roar. Sometimes courage is the little voice at the end of the day that says I'll try again tomorrow. — Mary Anne Radmacher
- It's not the size of the dog in the fight, it's the size of the fight in the dog. — Mark Twain
- When we are afraid we ought not to occupy ourselves with endeavoring to prove that there is no danger, but in strengthening ourselves to go on in spite of the danger. — Mark Rutherford

Standing Up For What Is Right-

- Sometimes standing against evil is more important than defeating it. The greatest heroes stand because it is right to do so, not because they believe they will walk away with their lives. Such selfless courage is a victory in itself — N.D. Wilson
- Speak your mind, even if your voice shakes — Maggie Kuhn
- From caring comes courage. — Lao Tzu

Expanding Your Horizons; Letting Go of the Familiar-

- Man cannot discover new oceans unless he has the courage to lose sight of the shore. — Lord Chesterfield
- This world demands the qualities of youth; not a time of life but a state of mind, a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a predominance of courage over timidity, of the appetite for adventure over the life of ease. — Robert F. Kennedy

Facing Suffering With Dignity or Faith-

- There is no need to be ashamed of tears, for tears bear witness that a man has the greatest of courage, the courage to suffer.” — Frank
- The ideal man bears the accidents of life with dignity and grace, making the best of circumstances. — Aristotle

In the film, “The Freedom Writers,” a young teacher, Erin Gruwell, inspires her class of at-risk students to learn tolerance, apply themselves, and pursue education beyond high school. Meanwhile fifty years earlier, in Amsterdam, Holland, a young girl, Anne Frank faced adversity and death as a result of her own identity.

Who is a hero? What makes a hero? The concept of a hero has been central to many of the reading selections and class discussions this year. Write an essay in which you first create your own definition of a hero. Then use examples from a text that you have read this year to illustrate that definition.

Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the two characters. You may select any character from the “Freedom Writer’s Diary” or The Diary of a Young Girl.

In your discussion include:

- **An introduction in which you define the concept of a hero**
- **At least two examples of a hero**
- **How each was heroic in either their own life, or how each were a catalyst for change**
- **A conclusion**