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What are the 5 characteristics of an epic poem

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Answer: The Epic Age- a long narrative poems in which a series of heroic achievements or events, usually of a hero, are dealt with at length. Folk songs are one of the oldest forms of Philippine literature that emerged in the pre-Spanish period. These songs mirrored the early forms of culture. What are the 6 elements of an epic poem? Six Elements Of The Epic: Plot centers around a Hero of Unbelievable Stature. The epic hero completes what everyone only attempts. Involves deeds of superhuman strength and valor. Vast Setting. Involves supernatural and/or otherworldly forces. Sustained elevation of style. Poet remains objective and omniscient. What is included in an epic poem? An epic is a long, often book-length, narrative in verse form that retells the heroic journey of a single person or a group of persons. Elements that typically distinguish epics include superhuman deeds, fabulous adventures, highly stylized language, and a blending of lyrical and dramatic traditions. Who is an example of an epic hero? Examples from Sumerian Literature Gilgamesh and Enkidu are two epic heroes from "The Epic of Gilgamesh." Gilgamesh is the son of the king Lugalbanda and the goddess Ninsun, giving him both elevated status and association with the divine. He has superior strength and intelligence but does not have divine powers. Is Hercules an epic hero? Hercules is thought of by some as one of the greatest heroes of all time, and may have been one of the original archetypal epic heroes as defined by the ancient Greeks. He had extraordinary strength, completed impossible tasks, was beset by many obstacles, and had the ultimate reward of eternal life on Olympus. What type of hero is Thor? about. Nordic legend tells the tale of the son of Odin, the heir to the throne of Asgard - he is THOR, renowned as the mightiest hero of mythology! Thor's strength, endurance, and quest for battle are far greater than his Asgardian brethren. What is an epic and epic hero? Epics are long narratives told in elevated language, often relating the adventures of larger-than-life heroes. Epic Literature. [End of Section] In some way, epic heroes embody the values of their civilizations. For example, a hero may demonstrate values of strength, bravery, or intelligence. How do you use the word epic? Epic can be used as an adjective to describe something historically important, lasting and complex. Perhaps your great-grandfather was a soldier in the epic struggle of World War One. Your three day, sleepless card poker game could be described as epic. "Beowulf" is the oldest surviving epic poem in the English language and the earliest piece of vernacular European literature. Perhaps the most common question readers have is what language "Beowulf" was written in originally. The first manuscript was written in the language of the Saxons, "Old English," also known as "Anglo-Saxon." Since then, the epic poem has been estimated to have been translated into 65 languages. However, many translators have struggled to maintain the flow and alliteration present within the complex text. Little is known about this famous epic poem's origins, unfortunately. Many believe that "Beowulf" may have been composed as an elegy for a king who died in the seventh century, but little evidence indicates who that king may have been. The burial rites described in the epic show a great similarity to the evidence found at Sutton Hoo, but too much remains unknown to form a direct correlation between the poem and the burial site. The poem may have been work of more than one author. Others have seen it as symbolic of the transition from paganism to Christianity in early medieval Britain. The extreme delicacy of the manuscript, the perceived two separate hands that inscribed the text, and the complete lack of clues to the identity of the author make a realistic determination difficult at best. Originally untitled, in the 19th century the poem was eventually referred to by the name of its Scandinavian hero, whose adventures are its primary focus. While some historical elements run through the poem, the hero and the story are both fictional. The sole manuscript of "Beowulf" dates to around the year 1000. Handwriting style reveals that it was inscribed by two different people. Whether either scribe embellished or altered the original story is unknown. The earliest known owner of the manuscript was 16th-century scholar Lawrence Nowell. In the 17th century, it became part of Robert Bruce Cotton's collection and is therefore known as Cotton Vitellius A.XV. The manuscript is now in the British Library, although in 1731 the manuscript suffered irreparable damage in a fire. The first transcription of the poem was made by Icelandic scholar Grímur Jónsson Thorkelin in 1818. Since the manuscript has decayed further, Thorkelin's version is highly prized, yet its accuracy has been questioned. In 1845, the pages of the manuscript were mounted in paper frames to save them from further damage. This protected the pages, but it also covered some of the letters around the edges. In 1993, the British Library initiated the Electronic Beowulf Project. Through the use of special infrared and ultraviolet lighting techniques, the covered letters were revealed as electronic images of the manuscript were made. Beowulf is a fictional prince of the Geats of southern Sweden who comes to Denmark to help King Hrothgar rid his fabulous hall, Heorot, of a terrible monster known as Grendel. The hero mortally wounds the creature, who flees the hall to die in its lair. The next night, Grendel's mother comes to Heorot to avenge her offspring and kills one of Hrothgar's men. Beowulf tracks her down and kills her, then returns to Heorot, where he receives great honors and gifts before returning home. After ruling the Geats for half a century in peace, Beowulf must face a dragon who threatens his land. Unlike his earlier battles, this confrontation is terrible and deadly. He is deserted by all his retainers except his kinsman Wiglaf, and though he defeats the dragon he is mortally wounded. His funeral and a lament end the poem. Much has been written about this epic poem, and it will surely continue to inspire scholarly investigation and debate, both literary and historical. For decades students have undertaken the difficult task of learning Old English in order to read it in its original language. The poem has also inspired fresh creative works, from Tolkien's "Lord of the Rings" to Michael Crichton's "Eaters of the Dead," and it will probably continue to do so for centuries to come. Originally written in Old English, the first translation of the poem was into Latin by Thorkelin, in connection with his transcription of 1818. Two years later Nicolai Grundtvig made the first translation into a modern language, Danish. The first translation into modern English was made by J. M. Kemble in 1837. In total, it is estimated that the epic poem has been translated into 65 languages. Since then there have been many modern English translations. The version done by Francis B. Gummere in 1919 is out of copyright and freely available at several websites. Many more recent translations, in both prose and verse form, are available today. Heritage Images/Hulton Fine Art Collection/Getty Images The five characteristics of an epic are the inclusion of supernatural forces interacting with humans; acts of courage or valor; characters who have some type of national importance; a tone and voice that make everything sound important, even if it's not; and a setting that is regional, national or global in nature. An example of an epic would be the "Iliad," the "Odyssey," the "Aeneid" and "Paradise Lost." These five characteristics of an epic are illustrated in the character of Odysseus in Homer's the "Odyssey." The first characteristic is exemplified by Odysseus taking on extraordinary deeds that are not the deeds of a normal man. This makes him a larger-than-life character and gives him a national importance. The secondary characteristic is exemplified by the journey that Odysseus takes that requires him to transverse nations. The third characteristic is exemplified by Odysseus proving his abilities and courage by fighting his way out of trouble as well as using clever wording. The fourth characteristic is shown in the conversation found between Zeus and Athena, where even a petty matter is given a great gravity cementing the sustained tone and language throughout the epic. The fifth characteristic is shown when the gods, such as Athena, intervene during Odysseus' journey. MORE FROM REFERENCE.COM



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