

The Hero's Journey in *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*

Name _____ Date _____ Per _____

In 1939, well-known scholar Joseph Campbell first gave a name, **The Hero's Journey**, to the common pattern found in the stories of heroes from across many cultures and belief systems. Following Campbell's lead, other scholars have also noted this pattern in our mythology, literature, films, and more in later years. The following table lists a blend from different scholars of the parts of the hero's journey. As we read *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*, we will track Harry's progress and determine if his character and experience in the story fits the pattern for the Hero's Journey.

The Question: Does Harry Potter's experience **fit** that of the Hero's Journey?

Stage of the Journey	Steps in the stage from Joseph Campbell & Christopher Vogler	Where in the text to you see evidence for your answer?
1. Departure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ordinary world--The hero begins here. 2. Call to adventure--Some event or communication signals that there is a journey afoot. 3. Refusal of the call--The hero is reluctant to proceed. 4. Meeting with the mentor--The hero is encouraged by a powerful friend. 5. Crossing the first threshold--The hero takes the leap into the other realm. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
2. Initiation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tests, allies and enemies--The hero faces challenges to become stronger, finds friends, discovers enemies. 2. Approach to the inmost cave--The hero has to overcome challenges that lead to the ordeal. 3. The ordeal--This is the culminating obstacle that will define the hero. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2. 3.

	<p>4. Reward--This is the acknowledgement of the hero's efforts.</p>	<p>4.</p>
<p>3. Return</p>	<p>1. The road back--The hero has to journey back to to the ordinary world.</p> <p>2. The resurrection--The hero is reborn, a new person.</p> <p>3. Return with the elixir--The hero has added power of some kind.</p> <p>4. Master of two worlds--The hero can now easily move between both worlds.</p> <p>5. Freedom to live--The hero enjoys more freedom than before.</p>	<p>1.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p> <p>4.</p> <p>5.</p>

So, what do you think? Does Harry Potter's story in book one **fit the pattern of the hero's journey**? Explain.