



## Heroes Rise: Comparative Study Group Project

### Driving Question: What do our heroes say about us?

**Instructions:** Each group will choose one of the questions (topics) listed below. [Remember: It's first come, first served!] Please locate **different** sources (Web sites, books, comic books or graphic novels, video clips, infographics, etc.) in order to fully explore and answer your chosen question.

#### Sub Questions

**Group 1:** What are the differences and similarities between imaginary heroes and real heroes?

**Group 2:** How are other cultures' heroes different and/or similar to our own?

**Group 3:** How are male heroes different and/or similar to female heroes?

**Group 4:** How does a child's hero differ from an adult's hero?

**Group 5:** Is hero-worship healthy or dangerous? (pro/con)

**Group 6:** Can heroes exist without villains?

#### BACKGROUND

**Anthropologists** are people who practice anthropology, which is the study of humanity. Basically they want to figure out what makes humans human. An anthropologist might be interested in everything from the traditions of a tribe on a remote island to the culture of an urban community and everything in between.

"When companies require cultural expertise they turn to anthropologists. Google, for example, hired an ethnographer to ferret out the meaning of mobile. Intel has an in-house cultural anthropologist, and Microsoft is reportedly the second-largest employer of anthropologists in the world" ([www.businessinsider.com](http://www.businessinsider.com)).

#### ROLE

Each of you are young anthropologists who have been hired by [DrinkBox Studios](http://DrinkBox Studios), a Toronto based gaming company. The company expects each of you to work in groups because teamwork is an essential skill in the gaming industry—their livelihood depends on people who can build upon different perspectives, ideas and experiences to facilitate the creation of new and innovative products. Each group of anthropologists will research **one** of the six topics provided above and present essential information to a live audience. The information presented will help the company develop a new product and/or product line.

#### TASK

Each team will research their assigned topic, collect and interpret data, and present the acquired information in an interesting and effective manner.

## **PROCEDURE**

1. Group contract: develop and sign
2. Meet and hold a "Need to Know" session or sessions (brainstorm)
3. Develop project plan/timeline: graphic organizer (use a [Web 2.0 tool](#))
4. Research topic: curate & share findings ([Diigo](#))
5. Take notes and interpret data
6. Develop an effective presentation that answers the question (compare-contrast)
7. Cite all sources (using a [citation maker](#))

## **FORMAT**

The format of this assignment is a **collaborative, oral/multi-media presentation**. All employees are expected to utilize a cloud based application to present their information. The company prefers cloud based applications because they encourage collaboration and can be accessed anywhere. Possible applications include: Google Presentation, emaze, or Prezi.

## **Audience**

Peers, teacher, guests (eg. librarian)

## **Reminder**

Although this is a team effort each anthropologist is expected to maintain a blog in order to reflect upon his or her experiences (the good, the bad, and the ugly). Written reflection helps individuals who are learning new concepts or beginning to grapple with complex issues that go beyond right and wrong answers.

FYI: This document is part of a PBL project: [Heroes Rise](#).