

Chapter-Based Activities
Rubric

Homer's The Iliad

The Trojan War

Classroom Edition for Young Readers

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This rubric is designed to assess student responses to the chapter-based activities included at the end of each chapter in *The Iliad – Classroom Edition*.

It applies specifically to the following activity types found throughout the book:

- Understand the Story
- Think and Discuss
- Create
- Reflection

The rubric evaluates students' ability to understand what happens in each chapter, why it happens, and what ethical or human questions arise from the characters' decisions.

It is not intended to assess general creativity or opinion, but engagement with the specific narrative conflicts presented in the text.

Criterion 1: Understanding of Chapter Events and Decisions

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Accurately explains the chapter’s key events and the decisions made by characters, showing clear understanding of why those decisions matter within the story.
3 – Proficient	Identifies main events and decisions with minor omissions or imprecision.
2 – Developing	Identifies some events but shows confusion about character decisions or their significance.
1 – Beginning	Shows limited or incorrect understanding of what happens in the chapter.

Criterion 2: Interpretation of Ethical and Thematic Meaning

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Clearly interprets how the chapter explores themes such as honor, leadership, anger, responsibility, fate, loss, loyalty, or forgiveness, and explains the consequences of characters' choices.
3 – Proficient	Identifies relevant themes and offers a basic interpretation connected to the chapter.
2 – Developing	Mentions themes but with limited explanation or weak connection to specific events.
1 – Beginning	Does not show understanding of the chapter's themes or their ethical meaning.

Criterion 3: Use of Specific Evidence from the Chapter

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Supports ideas using specific moments, actions, or dialogue from the chapter (e.g. Achilles’ withdrawal, Patroclus wearing the armor, Priam kneeling before Achilles, Cassandra’s ignored warnings).
3 – Proficient	Uses general but accurate references to events or characters from the chapter.
2 – Developing	Uses vague references or summaries without clear textual support.
1 – Beginning	Does not use evidence from the chapter to support ideas.

Criterion 4: Perspective-Based or Ethical Response

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Fully adopts the chosen perspective or task focus and reflects the emotional, ethical, and situational conflict of the character or moment presented in the chapter.
3 – Proficient	Adopts the chosen perspective and stays consistent with the chapter’s events and tone.
2 – Developing	Perspective or ethical position is unclear, simplified, or loosely connected to the chapter.
1 – Beginning	Response does not follow the assigned perspective or is unrelated to the chapter.

Criterion 5: Clarity, Completion, and Task Alignment

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Task is fully completed, clearly presented, and follows the activity instructions closely.
3 – Proficient	Task is complete and mostly clear, with minor lapses.
2 – Developing	Task is partially complete or unclear in places.
1 – Beginning	Task is incomplete or does not follow instructions.

Scoring and Use

This rubric may be used to assess student responses to **individual chapter activities or across multiple chapters** in *The Iliad – Classroom Edition*.

Teachers may:

- score each criterion separately, or
- use the rubric formatively to guide feedback, discussion, and revision.

The rubric evaluates:

- understanding of chapter events and character decisions,
- interpretation of ethical and thematic meaning,
- use of specific evidence from the text,
- ability to respond from a defined perspective or ethical position, and
- clarity and completion of assigned tasks.

Students are **not evaluated on perfect language use**. Written and oral language accuracy is assessed only as it affects clarity and task completion, and in accordance with students' language development levels.