

## HCC1b: NATION AND EMPIRE Pre-writing Grid #4 Textual Explication: *The Aeneid*

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**Assignment:** You have been asked to do a close reading of a specific passage from *The Aeneid* in order to write an essay about the costs and gains of nation-building as they are reflected in the goals, public practices, and personal choices of Carthaginians or Trojans. This pre-writing grid will help you generate material for your analysis. **Method:** Re-read your passage, circling key words or brief phrases relevant to one of these categories, or to people's positive or negative responses to them. 1] Write one down in the Keyword column. 2] Paraphrase what the speaker means here, and identify his or her specific audience. 3] Why is this word interesting? Is it a historical, religious, or geographical reference? Gender-related? Is the keyword an appeal to *ethos* (authority)? a *logos* turn of phrase or logic? or a *pathos* word? Use your *Handbook* checklist (46-47). 4] Does this particular keyword suggest gain, loss, or both? (Gain for *whom*? Loss for *whom*?). 5] Write down your first responses, but you may leave "So What?" until you have gone all the way through the passage. Then you can start seeing how your keywords interconnect to support possible claims about the gains and losses of nation-building. **Tip:** Before you begin, read and review *Handbook* (Checklist 46-47, Integrating Quotations 83-93), and "Active Reading and Textual Explication" (94-101). Use your Glossary and remember to use the *OED*.

KEY WORD/PHRASE	PARAPHRASE	WHY IS THIS WORD INTERESTING?	CAN THIS KEYWORD SUGGEST GAIN? OR LOSS? OR BOTH? ASK: GAIN/LOSS FOR WHOM?	SO WHAT? BUILDING CLAIMS AND WARRANTS
Quote exact word or brief key phrase. Give book and line #. If a word is repeated, indicate both line #s.	In your own words: who is saying what, and to whom? [The narrator counts as a speaker, too.]	History, religion/myth, geography architecture, engineering? Gender-related? Any appeal to <i>Ethos/Logos/Pathos</i> ?	If your passage emphasizes gain, look also for losses ( <i>for whom?</i> ) -- and also <i>vice versa</i> . The <i>OED</i> can help you find positive and negative connotations.	How does this keyword relate to other words or phrases you find about the gains and losses of building a nation or empire?

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