

1.

In the short story "The Hero's Test" Theseus demonstrates three different character traits: brave, strong, and clever. Theseus proves he's brave by saying, "People of Athens, I myself volunteer to be of the tribute." This proves he's brave because he's volunteering himself to go kill the minotaur in Crete which takes guts to do. When he finds the minotaur in the labyrinth, he kills it, "Raising his axe over his head, he brought it down with all of his force on the huge bull's forehead and split the minotaur's skull between the horns." It takes strength to split a powerful minotaur's head in half. Finally, Theseus demonstrates that he's clever, "But Theseus had eaten little, and quietly poured his wine between the stones of the prison floor, for he suspected the Cretan trick, and had good reasons to stay up." He must be clever if he can outwit a King (King Minos). Based on my evidence, Theseus clearly demonstrates the character traits of bravery, strength, and cleverness.

2.

The character I will be talking about is the Minotaur. He is a huge hairy beast but those aren't my favorite characters that I see in him. The three characteristics I see in this half-man/half-bull beast are being blood-thirsty, angry, and strong. So my next couple of paragraphs are going to explain to you how I know that these are three characteristics on the Minotaur. The reason I know the Minotaur is blood-thirsty is because on page #28 the story says "He is a dreadful beast, half bull and half man, who lives on human flesh". In the book there were many parts that showed that the Minotaur was angry but the most obvious clue was on page #31 when it said "for the Minotaur took just one look at him, let out a tremendous howl of rage and charged". This was how I knew that the minotaur was angry and that was how I knew it was one of his traits. I knew he was strong because in the text on page #31 it said "The Minotaur was a huge, powerful beast, but the wits of his bull head were not very sharp, and his fighting tactics were limited to a fast charge, horns lowered". Those were the reasons I that all of these characteristics meet the Minotaur.

3. In the story “The Hero’s Test” the main character, Theseus, shows many different traits throughout the story. One of these traits is fearless. In the passage it said “ Now the Minotaur was in close and Theseus was swinging the axe to defend his very life. Raising the axe over his head, he brought it down on the huge bull’s forehead and split the Minotaur’s skull between the horns” (witting 31). This shows that Theseus was fearless because he wasn’t scared even though he knew he could’ve been killed by the Minotaur at any moment. Secondly, Theseus was very determined. In the story, Theseus said ‘I will kill the Minotaur myself, and free Athens from this disgraceful tribute to Minos’ (witting 28). This proves that he was determined because he was sure that he would defeat the Minotaur and showed no signs of doubt. Lastly, Theseus was extremely selfless. In the text, he said to the other tributes ““Don’t move from this spot, but pray to the gods that it is I, and not the Minotaur, who be guided back by this string.’ And he set out to meet the Bull-headed monster” (witting 30). This evidence verifies that Theseus was selfless because he told the other tributes to stay in a spot while he went off alone to defeat the Minotaur. He wanted them to be safe just in case something happened to him. All in all, in the story Theseus showed that he was fearless, selfless, and determined.

4.

Theseus is brave, confident, and loving. Theseus is brave because he said, "I myself volunteer to be one of the tribute to crete". Theseus is also confident because he said, "I will kill the Minotaur myself". Theseus is also loving because he said, "I will make you my queen when we reach Athens".

5.

Thesis is the main character in The Hero's Test and he shows evidence of courage, bravery, and loyalty. On page 32 in the short story it says "He had to find his way in the dark this time, for his torch had gone out when he dropped it, and the way seemed very long". This shows characteristics of courageousness because it was dark and he had to find his way back all by himself. On page 29 in The Hero's Test it says "But Thesis was not easily frightened" representing that Thesis is brave. This represents bravery because if Thesis was easily frightened then he would not have been able to do this and save the children. Thesis is loyal. I know that Thesis is loyal because on page 28 it says "Nor will I allow the Minotaur to slaughter your children unless he first kills me". This is a great example of loyalty because if he was not loyal to his citizens then he would have just let them continue to get eaten by the Minotaur but Thesis was loyal to his citizens and put an end to this. Based on my evidence Thesis shows characteristics of courage, bravery, and loyalty.

6.

Theseus is courageous, powerful, and clever. “People of Athens, I myself volunteer to be one of the tribute to Crete.” (Witting Page 28) Based off of this previously stated section of the text, it proved that Theseus is courageous. A person who isn’t courageous would certainly not volunteer to step into a maze with a flesh-craving monster, so the fact that Theseus *did*, proves he is courageous. This part of the text proves Theseus’s power: “Raising the axe over his head, he brought it down with all his force on the huge bull’s forehead and split the Minotaur’s skull between the horns.” (Witting Page 31) This proves that Theseus is powerful because it takes a lot of force and power to split a skull of a beast that towers over him. Theseus even completed this task after fighting a long, tiring battle with the beast. “The boys and girls slept soundly, for their wine had been drugged that night to make sure they were rested and alert when they were sent into the labyrinth. But Theseus had eaten little, and had quietly poured his wine between the stones of the prison floor, for he suspected the Cretan trick, and had good reasons to stay awake.” (Witting Page 30) This shows that Theseus is clever. A clever person would analyze all of the possible things his enemy could do to get the upper hand on him, drugging wine being one of those things, which Theseus did, making him clever. Overall, and in many ways, Theseus is clever, powerful, and courageous.

7.

Ariadne from the story Hero's Test is compassionate, thoughtful, and trustworthy. Ariadne is compassionate because in the text it says "That night in her pretty room, decorated with painted dolphins and graceful sea-creatures, she wept for hours to think of Theseus' terrible fate" (Witting 29). This proves that Ariadne is compassionate because compassion is when someone is concerned about someone else, and in this evidence Ariadne is concerned for Theseus' well being. Ariadne is also a thoughtful person because in the text she was being thoughtful toward Theseus when she said "'Theseus' she whispered. 'listen closely. Tomorrow at the entrance to the labyrinth you will find an axe and a ball of string'" (Witting 30). This shows that Ariadne is thoughtful because she was thinking about Theseus by helping him out. Finally she is also trustworthy because in the story it says "He looked closely about the doorway and sure enough, there was a large ball of stout string" (Witting 30). This statement shows that she is trustworthy because she didn't go back on her word when she said that she would leave a ball of string and an axe at the entrance for Theseus. All of the evidence from the story helps prove that not only is Ariadne a princess, but that she is also a warm-hearted person who is compassionate, thoughtful, and trustworthy.