

Excerpt where the student places the event in context:

According to Homer's Iliad, in the Bronze Age there was a war called the Trojan War. It was a war fought between the Trojans and the Mycenaeans. The war happened because the prince of Troy, Paris, and the wife of Menelaus, Helen, fell in love. Helen was the most beautiful woman in Greece. She was married to Menelaus, who was the brother of Agamemnon, the king of Mycenae. When Menelaus found out that Helen went to Troy with the Trojans when they were going back to Troy, Menelaus got really mad and asked Agamemnon for help. When Menelaus and Agamemnon came to Troy with tens of thousands of men. The main reason for why the Trojan war started was because of Paris and Helen falling in love.

Excerpt where the student attempts to explain why the event was important:

The Trojan war was important because it showed us about Greek traditions. One of the important beliefs was the burning of a corpse after a funeral. When someone died, they would give them a respectful funeral. An example is shown when Achilles' cousin Patroclus dies (Iliad bk 23). If a proper funeral is not given, it is difficult for the soul to pass into the underworld.