

PREPARE TO WRITE: Listing

Choose a hero to write about. It can be a folk hero from your culture, a comic book superhero, a movie hero, or a real-life hero. Write a list of the main events in their adventures and important characteristics. List these events in order as in the example about the Chinese hero, Mulan.

Mulan is a hero from China from around 600 A.D.

She's the daughter of an old general.

Her father taught her how to use a knife and how to ride a horse . . . not normal for a girl.

Soldiers come to town to get men to fight in the war.

Mulan's father was too old to fight.

Mulan's father didn't have a son to send in his place.

Mulan stole her father's horse and knife.

She dressed up like a man.

She joined the army.

Mulan fought for many years.

No one knew she was a girl.

She wasn't strong.

She was smart.

She made clever plans to help the army win the war.

After the war, the emperor offered Mulan a job that would make her rich.

Mulan wanted only to return home to her family.

Her family was happy to see her.

Her father was ill, but alive.

She dressed in women's clothes again.

Friends from the army came to visit.

They learned Mulan was a woman.

She saved her father from having to fight.

She brought honor to her family.

WRITE: Outlining the Story

The writing task gives you categories to help you organize your story:

- I. Background
- II. Part One: The Challenge
- III. Part Two: How the Hero Overcomes the Challenge
- IV. Part Three: The Effects

To write your outline, you must choose only the important information from your list that matches these categories.

