

Do we really choose our own path in life, or are we destined from birth? Well, according to the *Sundiata* and the *Shahname*, Fate determines the outcome of our lives. These stories, from Mali and Persia, both have heroes that accept what fate has determined for their lives. From the past, till the present there are people who believe in the concept of Fate and that it affects their lives.

- Discuss the element/foundation piece of your civilizations (define, examine it)
- How did this element guide the characters? (give an example from the story)
- How does it exist today?

Although Sundiata had the better fate, Sohrab behaved more heroically. Sohrab's stoic acceptance of his death and his determination to save his people were an inspiration. Being able to accept things we can't change, like Fate, but still being able to reach for a better solution is something we can all strive to accomplish with our lives.

On YOUR ESSAY:

**For the Introduction:**

- Highlight your story, element, and culture in your introduction.
- Underline your thesis

**For the Body**

- Underline your definition of your element. What does it mean, what is it?
- Highlight the example you used from the story that shows the characters being influenced by that element.
- Circle the example you used from today to show that the element still exists.
- Put stars next to all the DETAILS you used to elaborate on these facts.

**\*\*Remember-just stating them is PROFICIENT, you must discuss, elaborate and go into more detail to be considered SKILLED.**

**\*\*Listing the Plot is not elaborating on the facts, you must EXPLAIN how that event is SIGNIFICANT to the story.**

- Cross out anytime you say, In my opinion, I think, I believe, In conclusion, All in all, or any other filler phrase.

**For the Conclusion**

- Do you make a final observation, or state something you learned? Highlight it.