

Three-paragraph Essay

Atque nostris militibus cunctantibus, maxime propter altitudinem
maris, qui decimae legionis aquilam ferebat, contestatus deos, ut ea res
legioni feliciter eveniret, "Desilite," inquit, "milites, nisi vultis aquilam
hostibus prodere: ego certe meum rei publicae atque imperatori officium
5 praestitero." Hoc cum voce magna dixisset, se ex navi proiecit atque in
hostes aquilam ferre coepit. Tum nostri cohortati inter se, ne tantum
dedecus admitteretur, universi ex navi desiluerunt. Hos item ex proximis
primis navibus cum conspexissent, subsecuti hostibus appropinquare.

In this passage the narrator describes how decisive action on the part of one man emboldens the Roman army. In a short essay, discuss the importance of this one man's contribution to the success of the attack, first in terms of literary effect and the devices used to make the encounter more dramatic, and then in terms of historical effect.

Support your assertions with references to the Latin text throughout the passage above. All Latin words must be copied or their line numbers provided, AND they must be translated or paraphrased closely enough that it is clear that you understand the Latin. It is your responsibility to convince the reader that you are basing your conclusions on the Latin text and not merely on a general recollection of the passage. Direct your answer to the question; do not merely summarize the passage. Please write your essay on a separate piece of paper.