

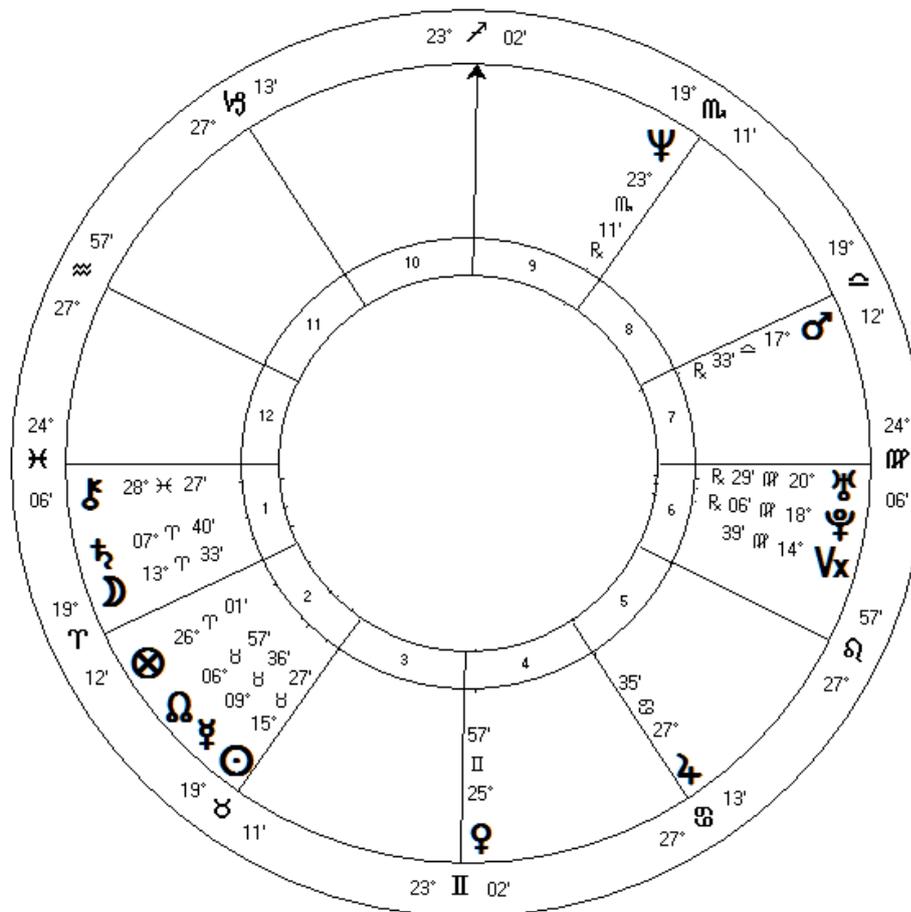
The following example essay was written by Rozlyn Noble of NSW for the 2015 FAA Interpretation Exam. Whilst it must be remembered that there are many different styles of academic writing and astrological analysis, this essay can be used as a guide by potential candidates to gain a basic understanding of what FAA Examiners are looking for in essays.

Clementine Adkins, Exam Board Director

2015 Interpretation Exam

Section 1: Question 2

Male
Natal Chart
 7 May 1967, Sun
 2:45 am -10:00
 Hobart, Australia
 42°S53' 147°E19'
Geocentric
Tropical
Placidus
True Node
 Rating: A



Question 2

The Sun is strongly aspected in this chart. What does this say about this man's 'hero's journey'? (no rulerships necessary)

The Hero's Journey is a metaphor for personal, spiritual and psychological growth. The Hero myth is a universal story occurring in every culture. From Achilles, St George, Lancelot and even Robin Hood, it tells the same story of the man who triumphs over adversity and obstacles to return to the world a wiser person. It also represents what it means to be human where the man has the chance to demonstrate not only his courage and strength but his *values*.

The Sun in a chart is “the basic energy of being” ¹. The Sun describes our will, our vitality, and also our experience (our perception) of our father. (Just as the Moon describes our experiences of our mother).

“The Sun is the archetype of the hero.” ² The psychologist Carl Jung thought of archetypes (universal pattern or principle that impels and affects the human psyche and human behaviour on many levels) as the basic component of the human psyche, shared across all cultures by all human beings and he regarded them as universal expressions of a collective unconscious.

In astrology, the planets represent the essential archetypal forces while the aspects (the relationship between the planets) and are also shared across all cultures by all of humanity.

The Hero’s Journey is the story of a man venturing forth from his everyday world, overcoming adversity, i.e. slay dragons, encounter trials and temptations until finally a decisive victory is won. He is transformed. The hero returns back from his adventure with a power to help his fellow man.

It would be interesting to compare the stages of the hero’s journey with the aspects of the Sun to give insight into this man’s personal journey.

The first stage is the Hero living in the ordinary world. The Sun in this chart is in the fixed, earth sign of Taurus. This gives an ability to stick with things, people and ideas so this man may sometimes appear stubborn. He probably won’t let people down once he has made a promise. The earthy nature of Taurus means he has a need for comfort. He may be quite sensate, appreciating the smell of flowers or the pleasure of food. He may have a conscious aim of achieving security and a strong sense of values. (Sun in 2nd House). The strong second house is about his own resources and with the Sun here he may have a strong drive to create personal wealth and achieve financial security. He may come across as dependable and patient.

The next stage in his journey is a call to adventure. The hero journey can be something he chooses, or a situation that is thrust upon him. It is how he undertakes the journey that defines the hero. Something might have shaken up his situation and he must face the beginnings of change. With Uranus and Pluto in the 6th House in Virgo trine the Sun there may have been sudden and dramatic changes to his health or his day-to-day work routines. He might have some unique views on health and wellbeing. Uranus in Virgo applies to a whole generation (1962-1968) who are more aware of the connection between body and mind. He may seek more freedom than a nine-to-five job offers and might want to question any rules or traditions if they don’t make sense to him.

In his journey, the hero is tested. He is probably not afraid of much (Sun trine Pluto) and once he’s found his passion he could apply himself to the job at hand. He’d be keen to apply those analytical skills (Virgo) to his scientific and technical interests. He may need to be

1. (Hand, Horoscope Symbols page 327)
2. (Hand, Horoscope Symbols page 48)

Careful of a compelling need to achieve perfection (Virgo). He is likely to be very sensitive (Sun opposite Neptune). With his ASC in Pisces this suggests a gentle tolerant person who dislikes conflict. The ASC is often described as the mask worn when meeting people and this face he shows the world is somewhat at odds with his Taurus Sun and Aries Moon. This shows a strong person with a determined drive to achieve his personal ambitions. Occasionally he might have difficulty getting the energy and drive to achieve everything he wants in life (Sun quincunx Mars) but with endurance and stamina he could succeed (Taurus Sun).

In his journey, the hero is tested. He is probably not afraid of much (Sun trine Pluto) and once he's found his passion he could apply himself to the job at hand. He'd be keen to apply those analytical skills (Virgo) to his scientific and technical interests. He may need to be careful of a compelling need to achieve perfection (Virgo). He is likely to be very sensitive (Sun opposite Neptune). With his ASC in Pisces this suggests a gentle tolerant person who dislikes conflict. The ASC is often described as the mask worn when meeting people and this face he shows the world is somewhat at odds with his Taurus Sun and Aries Moon. This shows a strong person with a determined drive to achieve his personal ambitions. Occasionally he might have difficulty getting the energy and drive to achieve everything he wants in life (Sun quincunx Mars) but with endurance and stamina he could succeed (Taurus Sun).

Inside he might be an idealist that has big dreams but he could fear dreaming too big (Neptune Retrograde). Retrograde planets can often intensify the planets energies and he has Pluto, Uranus, Mars and Neptune all Retrograde and making aspects to the Sun. This might mean he could risk "losing perspective"³² and may let his fears of being controlled (Pluto) or changed (Uranus) rule him. He may even create imaginary problems where none exist. (Neptune opposite Sun) He may have an unrealistic view on the realities of higher study and overseas travel. (Neptune in 9th House in Scorpio) but that urge to seek a deeper understanding of the mysteries of life could see him experimenting with mind-altering drugs.(Neptune) He is part of a generation with Neptune in Scorpio and may be torn between his physical and spiritual wants.

The above patterns might be the nature of the challenges the hero needs to address and this stage of the journey may not be easy.

And finally, when the Hero has been tested and overcome challenges, and facing his fears, he is able to take possession of the treasure won and return to the world. His gift could be his intelligence and mental energy. (Sun conjunct Mercury) He is probably very good at communication. He may be a very animated speaker but he needs to be careful that he doesn't concentrate on thinking about what to say next instead of listening. He may like to communicate in a conventional rather dogmatic (Taurus) fashion and needs to be careful not to be too opinionated or sticking to old ideas. With Mercury and the Sun in the 2nd House he may come up with some clever money-making ideas and he'll possess the ideas and tenacity to make these work.

3. (Hand, Horoscope Symbols page 44)

As the lower hemisphere is so strong in this chart, his personal resources and values form a strong basis for his success in life. As a man who has met challenges and resolved difficulty the result is a rich and mature character. Without this development there are many 'adult boys' who have not taken on the work required to grow. This interpretation of his chart allow for tailoring of his journey.

1087 words

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