**Literary Analysis *Sundiata*  Names\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Reason out which events fit best. Remember, stages may not go in order.

**Journey of the Hero Examples from the story/pg#\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**1. Ordinary World – belief in pre-destiny; Sundiata is physically infirmed and cannot walk; Sogolon tries to help, but Sundiata remains quiet and strange compared to others; Sassouma affronts Sogolon and Sundiata out of jealousy**

**2. Call to the Adventure – While on his death bed, King Nare Maghan tells Sundiata he’ll be the next King. (herald)**

**3. Refusal of the Call – Prior to his deathbed, the King doesn’t really believe there will be an heir. “Has the seed really germinated?” He can’t accept that Sundiata is supposed to be his successor.**

**4. Meeting with the Mentor – The King tells Sundiata Balla Fasseke is to be his griot (counselor and sooth-sayer). Sundiata beckons him saying, “Balla, you will be my griot.”**

**5. Crossing the Threshold- “The child, as if he understood the meaning of the King’s words, beckoned the griot to approach.”**

**6. Tests, Allies, Enemies – Sassy – Queen Mother – affronts, evil gossip; acts with council of elders as a threshold guardian to keep Djata from becoming King; evil affronts to Sogolon (baobob leaves, etc.); banishes Sogolon and Sundiata into the back yard – humiliates (Who causes most of the problems in his life? What conflict actually gives Sundiata the courage to accept his destiny?)**

**7. Approach to the Inmost Cave: “I am going to walk today, Mother. Tell the smiths to make me the heaviest possible iron rod. Do you want just the leaves, or would you rather I brought you the whole tree?” “Ah son, to wipe out the insult I want the tree and its roots at my feet outside my hut.” Six men carry the iron rod.**

**8. Supreme Ordeal- Balla Fasseke – Herald: “Arise young lion, roar, and may the bush know from henceforth it has a master.” Sundiata hoists himself up, bends the bar into a bow. “His first steps were those of a giant.”**

**9. Reward – Baobab tree; walks – gets respect**

(This portion of the Sundiata epic ends with the reward.)

**Part II. Identify each character next to his/her name.** Next, determine which archetype each fits so far in the story and **reasons why** this character has this trait or traits.

**Character (who?) Archetype(s) Reason why/evidence\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Djata- hero**

**Sogolon- tries to be a mentor, but has many issues with S’s condition that prevent her from being a positive force. She tries.**

**Nare Maghan- herald**

**Gnankouman Doua-mentor**

**Sassouma- villain, threshold guardian**

**Balla Fasseke- mentor**

**Part III. Discuss and answer the following questions.**

1. What is the author’s main purpose (beyond entertainment)? Use specific evidence to back your answer.

Mali children - To teach that a person’s destiny is determined at birth.

Readers - To **inform** about Mali’s history and beliefs.

1. What is the theme of the story? Provide evidence or a quotation from the story to back it up.
2. What relationship is most significant **to understanding Djata’s traits and motivation**? Explain. Sassy’s relationship motivates him to change.
3. Make two inferences about Mali cultural values. Include evidence to back up your inferences.