MagicSchool.ai Suggestions for Hero Assignment

To make your "Hero Research Paper" assignment more resistant to generative AI, you can incorporate the following strategies:

- ### 1. **Emphasize Critical Thinking and Original Analysis**
- **Current Assignment**: The assignment asks students to choose an individual who follows the hero's cycle and research them.
- **Improvement**: Require students to **compare and contrast** the chosen hero with a lesser-known figure or a character from literature who also follows the hero's cycle. This pushes students to draw connections that AI might not easily generate.
- ### 2. **Incorporate Personal Reflection**
- **Current Assignment**: Students write a research paper using MLA documentation.
- **Improvement**: Add a reflective component where students discuss **how the hero's journey parallels or diverges from their own experiences or those of people they know**. This requires a personal touch that AI cannot replicate effectively.
- ### 3. **Require Creative or Multi-Modal Components**
- **Current Assignment**: The assignment is focused solely on writing and research.
- **Improvement**: Ask students to create a **visual representation** (e.g., a timeline, storyboard, or artwork) that illustrates key stages of the hero's journey. They should also include a brief written explanation of their choices. This multi-modal approach requires students to think creatively and holistically.
- ### 4. **Use Process-Based Assessment**
- **Current Assignment**: The assignment includes steps like pre-research and creating a works cited page, with final submission receiving a summative grade.
- **Improvement**: Emphasize **process over product** by grading students on their research notes, draft submissions, and peer reviews. Require students to submit their research process, including search queries and source evaluations. This makes it harder for students to rely solely on AI-generated content.
- ### 5. **Personalize the Topic Selection**
 - **Current Assignment **: Students choose from a wide range of historical and modern figures.
- **Improvement**: Require students to choose a figure that is **personally significant** to them or connected to their cultural background or community. This narrows the scope in a way that demands personal investment and originality.
- ### 6. **Add Real-Time Assessments**
 - **Current Assignment**: The focus is on the final paper submission.

- **Improvement**: Include **in-class writing sessions** or oral presentations where students must discuss their hero and answer questions from peers or the teacher. This ensures students have a deep understanding of their topic and haven't relied too heavily on AI.

By incorporating these strategies, the assignment would require students to demonstrate higherorder thinking, personal reflection, and creative expression, which are more challenging for generative AI to replicate accurately.