Task Two: Humble Beginnings

As we've learned in class, heroes tend to be found in humble, ordinary situations. Bilbo is no exception to this rule. For this task, you will explore Bilbo's humble beginning in *The Hobbit*.

Directions:
1. Think about Bilbo at the beginning of the book. How is Bilbo's lifestyle ordinary/humble for a hobbit? How does Bilbo's character, at the beginning of the book, fit the "hero's journey" pattern we discussed in class?
2. Take ten minutes to free write and answer the questions above in your RRJ.
3. Don't forget to jot down quotes/selections from the book that demonstrate your points.
4. In writer's workshop, share your RRJ entry with your lit. circle group.
5. Collaboratively, write a two-chunk paragraph demonstrating Bilbo's humble beginning. Use a combination of concrete details (facts, quotes, examples) and commentary (opinion, analysis, conclusions) to write your paragraph.
6. Type up your two-chunk paragraph for a 25-point assignment.

Prewriting Activities
1. List any quotes/excerpts from the book that may help you show Bilbo's humble beginning.

2. Create a topic sentence that introduces the main idea of your paragraph.

3. Web off of the primary adjectives and adverbs in your topic sentence.
4. Use the table below to record facts (CD's) about Bilbo's life before his adventure AND your opinions (analysis) as to why the facts show Bilbo led a humble life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CD's</th>
<th>CM's</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Facts/Proof/Evidence)</td>
<td>(Opinion/Analysis/Conclusions/Interpretation)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Now, use the prewriting above....
   a. Write a topic sentence (you may want to change some words using your word webs)
   b. Use a combination of quotes, facts, examples to create CD sentences (at least 2 in this paragraph)
   c. Explain how your CD's support the main idea through CM sentences (at least four in this paragraph)
   d. Use your word webs to restate the topic sentence and wrap up in a unique way.

Cindy Farnum 2006