Preparing to Write: Conquering Fear

Directions: Complete the activity below after you read “Taming the Fear Monster” and “Conquering Fear.” When you are finished, you can use what you wrote to help you respond to the prompt on page 21.

1. Nelson Mandela once said, “I learned that courage was not the absence of fear but the triumph over it.” In your own words, explain what you think Mandela meant.

2. The following questions will help you think about how Mandela’s quote applies to the article “Taming the Fear Monster.” Answer the questions using details from the article, making sure to note the page numbers where your details come from.

   A. What was Kyle Hargreaves afraid of?

   B. In what way did Kyle “triumph over” his fear?
3. The next two questions will help you think about how Mandela’s quote applies to the folktale “Conquering Fear.” Answer the questions using details from the folktale.

A. What was Miobe afraid of?

B. In what way does Miobe “triumph over” his fear?

When you write the first draft of your essay, you can draw on your answers to the questions you just answered. Be sure to:

• answer both questions in the writing prompt.
• give the name of the article and its author, and the name of the folktale.
• use transitions to link your ideas together so that your essay flows smoothly from one idea to the next.