

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**READ CLOSELY AND SHOW EVIDENCE OF THINKING BY ANNOTATING.** Annotate all readings by highlighting the main idea in **yellow**; the best evidence supporting in **blue**, and any interesting phrases in **green**.

# THE MAN IN THE ARENA

by President Theodore Roosevelt 1910

Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919) was the 26th President of the United States from 1901 to 1909. He was an early supporter of social activism, progressive political reform, and environmental conservation. Henry Adams, an American historian who ran in the same circles as Roosevelt, described the former president as such: "Roosevelt, more than any other man... was pure act." The following excerpt comes from a much longer speech entitled "Citizenship in a Republic" that Roosevelt gave in France a year after he left the office of the presidency. The excerpt has become known as "The Man in the Arena" speech, because someone who is heavily involved in a situation that requires courage, skill, or tenacity (as opposed to someone sitting on the sidelines and watching), is sometimes referred to as "the man in the arena." **As you read, take notes on how the diction and structure of the excerpt contribute to its meaning.**

It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly;<sup>1</sup> who errs,<sup>2</sup> who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming;<sup>3</sup> but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid<sup>4</sup> souls who neither know victory nor defeat.

## Notes

1. **Valiantly** (*adverb*) : with bold courage or heroism
2. **Err** (*verb*) : to make a mistake
3. **Shortcoming** (*noun*) : a fault or failure to meet a certain standard

Article of the Week #2-The Man in the Arena

4. **Timid** (*adjective*) : shy, nervous; having no courage or confidence

**WRITE A REFLECTION (3 paragraphs-5 sentences each)-This needs to be submitted through google classroom.**

**One paragraph that reflects on what the writer said**

- **Here's where you summarize the main points of the story**

**One paragraph that reflects on the writer's style**

- **How does the author use rhetorical devices (similes, metaphors, symbols etc.)**
- **What is the theme/author's message**

**One paragraph that reflects the reader's thoughts on the content of the Story**

- **Here's where you can discuss your reaction to the story, did it speak to you? Did you like it, why or why not?**