**Characteristics of the Epic**

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| Male hero of high social status or legendary importance |  |  |
| Hero’s actions determine the fate of a nation or people |  |  |
| Hero performs exceedingly courageous, sometimes superhuman deeds |  |  |
| Hero reflects the ideas and values of the culture or era |  |  |
| Plot involves supernatural beings |  |  |
| Setting is vast, involving more than one nation and a dangerous journey through unfamiliar lands |  |  |
| Reflects timeless and universal themes such as good vs. evil and life and death |  |  |
| Epic devices: kennings, epithets, alliteration, repetition, etc… |  |  |

**Characteristic Lines from Poem Best representative quotation**