The American Romantic Hero

List at least 3 modern heroes in American Culture. These heroes should be from movies, books, etc. They may not be real people.
Characteristics of the Romantic Hero

- Clichéd rather than well rounded
- The embodiment of ideas
- A flawed character
The American Romantic Hero has qualities that can be found in the beliefs of the Romantics.
Characteristics cont.

- Individual
  - Youthful
  - Instinctive
- Truth
  - Finds truth in nature
Characteristics cont.

- Nature
  - Key to the Romantic Hero
  - Avoids the city
  - Derives knowledge from experiences and nature
Birth of Romantic Hero

- James Fenimore Cooper
  - Father of the American Novel
  - Wrote of the American Frontier
  - *The Leatherstockings Tales*
    - Natty Bumppo

http://www.biography.com/articles/James-Fenimore-Cooper-9256602
Modern Romantic Heroes

- Today authors still write about the American Romantic Hero
- Popular examples are
  - Superman
  - Luke Skywalker
  - Indiana Jones
Your Assignment

- While you read "Rip Van Winkle" annotate the text to prove that he is an American Romantic Hero.
Works Cited


Works Cited

Rip Van Winkle

- Prolonged sleep sheltered and ostracized him from society
  - Upon awakening Rip encounters trouble conforming to the new society
- Laziness helps cause separation from society
- Involved with nature