English IV AP – *The Iliad* – The Role of Women

Background: Traditionally, the world of *The Iliad* is thought of as a male world. It is a place of battle and blood and courage and revenge. Women are thought to be little more than passive vessels. Even worse, they are often considered “war prizes.” However, some revisionists maintain that women have a more influential role in this classic world of antiquity than initially thought.

Assignment: Part One: Should the women of The Iliad be condemned for their passivity? Or, should they be praised with doing the best they can under the circumstances to which they were born (society, culture, patriarchy, etc.).

Mortal Women (comment on two or three, not the entire list):

* Helen
* Andromache
* Hecuba
* Chryseis
* Briseis

Goddesses

* Hera
* Athena
* Thetis
* Aphrodite

Format:

11/2 to 2 pages

Size twelve font

Double-spaced

MLA

**\_\_\_ 20 pts.**