

# THE ODYSSEY

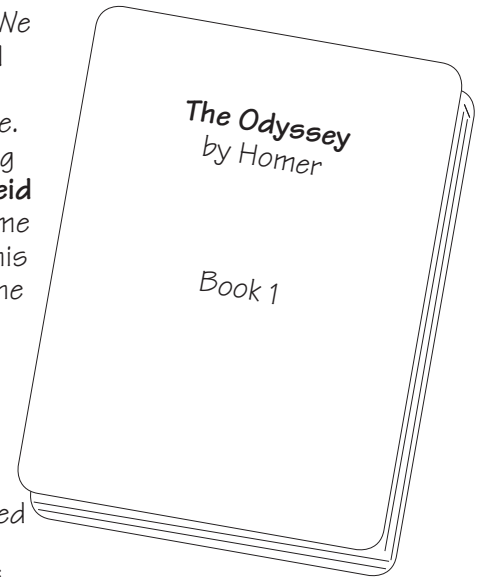
## Books 1 - 4

is the tale of Odysseus, King of Ithaka, husband of Penelope, father of Telemakhos, son of Laertes, personal friend of King Agamemnon and King Menelaus, and hero of the Trojan war. Odysseus had sailed with his army to take part in the mighty battle against the Trojans at Troy in order to restore Helen to Menelaus.

After ten years of bloody battle, Troy is sacked and destroyed. We will not learn of how this was accomplished until we read **The Aeneid** by Virgil. When the **Odyssey** begins ten more years have passed and Odysseus has still not returned home. This is a tale of his adventure.

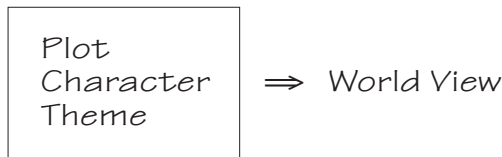
This book is the second in a trilogy that would shape the thinking of the Greek and Roman world. The **Iliad**, the **Odyssey**, and the **Aeneid** are the pillars of the western world's cultural heritage. Although some parts of this story sound strange to our twentieth century ears, this book helped form the basis of life, religion, and culture to those of the Greek and Roman world.

☐ Read Book One, lines 1 - 34.



### ANALYZING THE ODYSSEY from a world view perspective

In order to understand the **Odyssey** we must consider the plot, character, and theme. Though each of these elements may be studied separately, the interrelationship among the three must always be maintained. As a whole the work reflects a particular perspective of life, a world view.



#### PLOT

What happens to the characters of the *Odyssey*? What series of events take place? The plot is the flow of the story. According to James Sire in **How To Read Slowly**:

Every story has a flow of development. In the early stages, characters are introduced, the action begun, the setting is unfolded; usually some conflict or problem is introduced early on, and this is developed to some complexity. Finally, a peak or turning point is reached, the action falls away and the story comes rapidly to an end. Discerning the conflict, the characters or ideas involved, seeing its complications, detecting the turning point are all aspects of observing plot.

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To help understand the story we should first simply tell it back. To help unravel the plot ask yourself:

- What has happened in the story?
- How are the events sequenced or ordered?
- How do the individual events of the story relate to the whole?

## CHARACTER

Stories happen to people. Not only are people the characters of the story, they have character. The main character is Odysseus. To better understand this person look for comments about:

- His physical appearance.
- What he thinks and says.  
... the ideas he holds to be true about  
    the gods...  
    man...  
    ethics and morality...  
    death...  
    the gods
- What his friends think and say about him.  
    his enemies
- His character.  
... how does he react to people and situations...  
... how do others react to him.

## THEME

Homer has certain ideas he hopes to convey to the reader or listener. These are the ideas that comprise the theme of the story. The people and plot of a story are related and held together by the theme. In order to understand the theme ask:

- What is the basic idea [or ideas] of the story?
- How are the characters, the plot, and ideas interrelated?

## WORLD VIEW

A world view is a way of looking at life. What do the main characters believe about life? What do they base their life on? What life perspectives are the characters taking? What do they considered ultimate truth? In an attempt to determine the world view of a piece of literature use the following seven questions as a guide:

- How is God described? What is He like? What are His attributes?
- What is the universe like? Describe its origin and operation?
- How is man described? What is man like? What is his nature?
- What is the basis for ethics and morality?
- What is the cause of evil and suffering?
- What is thought to happen to man at death?
- Is history seen to have a purpose, or is it simply a never ending cycle?

These elements though described separately are closely interrelated. As you read the **Odyssey** have these questions constantly in mind. And now ...

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 1

The tale of Odysseus, the great Greek hero.

☆ The opening of this book, like the **Iliad**, focuses upon the theme of the story. How does the **Odyssey** begin? [lines 1 - 34]

☆ How is the man [line 2] described and what has happened to him? We are not told his name until line 31. Who is he?

☆ What was the cause of his problems? [lines 1 - 34]

☆ We are taken behind the curtain in lines 35 -122 to listen to the conversations of the gods. Describe the conversation between Zeus and Athena.

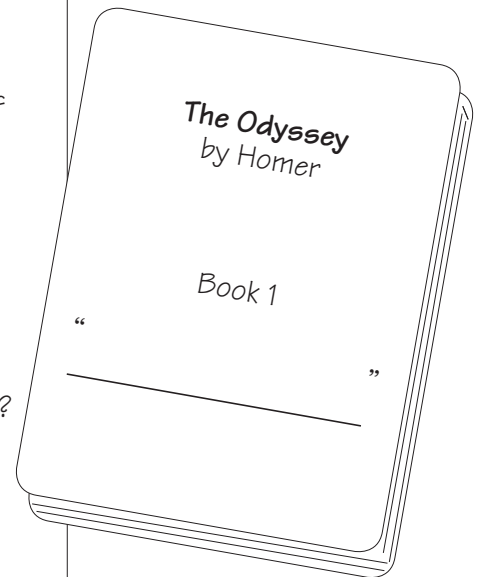
Zeus ⇒ what do we learn about suffering and evil from his perspective?

⇒ what do we learn about King Agamemnon on his return home?

Athena ⇒ ... what is her concern?

Zeus ⇒ ... why is Poseidon angry with Odysseus?

Read Book One



Use a highlight marker to emphasize all descriptions of Odysseus. For example, in line 68 he is called 'the master mind of war.' In line 87 we read 'There is no mortal half so wise...'

After completing the study of Book 1, write a title in the space above.

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Athena ⇒ ... what is the plan?

☆ Beginning with line 123 we are moved into the *seen* world of history. What is Athena able to do? Where is she and what is happening?

In this *section* we meet Telemakhos. Who is he and how does Telemakhos respond when he sees Mentos (Athena)?

☆ Describe Telemakhos' belief regarding his father, Odysseus.

☆ What does Athena tell Telemakhos about his father? [lines 220 - 256]

☆ What does Athena tell Telemakhos to do? [lines 318 - 350]

☆ Athena leaves the presence of Telemakhos. He returns to the banquet of the suitors. [line 374 - 500] Describe the conversations between:

Telemakhos and Penelope, his mother...

Telemakhos and the suitors...

Antinoos, Eupheithes' son, and Telemakhos...

☆ Write a title for Book 1. Use the space provided on the previous page.

☆ Fitzgerald titled Book 1 **A Goddess Intervenes**. Why do you think he selected this as the title?

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 2

This book opens with Telemakhos ordering ‘the criers with clarion voices ... to muster the unshorn Akhaians in full assembly’ [lines 7 - 10]. This is the first meeting as such since King Odysseus left for Troy nineteen years earlier [lines 26 - 35].

★ Telemakhos takes the speaker’s staff and speaks. Describe his opening speech. Include not only what is said, but also the intensity. [lines 39 - 89]

★ Antinoos is the first to respond. What does he say? [lines 90 - 137]

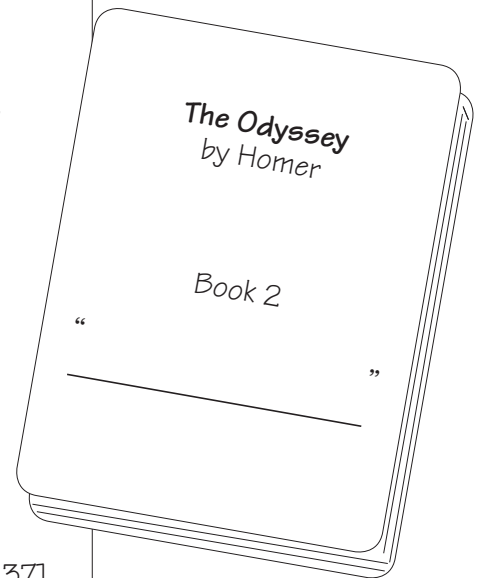
★ Telemakhos calls on Zeus in his response to Antinoos. What does Telemakhos say and what sign does Zeus give? [lines 137 - 187]

★ How is the sign interpreted? [line 170 - 234]  
Halitherses ⇒

Eurymakhos ⇒

Telemakhos ⇒

Read Book Two.



Use a highlight marker to emphasize all descriptions of Odysseus. For example, in line 17 he is called ‘the great Odysseus.’ In lines 49 - 50 we read ‘My distinguished father is lost, who ruled among you once, mild as a father.’

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☆ Describe the conversation between Mentor and Leokritos.  
[lines 235 - 269]

☆ After the meeting is completed 'Telemakhos walked down along the shore and washed his hands in the foam of the grey sea, then said this prayer...' Describe the prayer and the response of Athena.  
[lines 270 - 312, 405 - 461]

☆ Describe Telemakhos' view of the gods.

☆ Give Book 2 a title. Write it on the space provided on the previous page.

☆ The title Fitzgerald gives to Book 2 is **A Hero's Son Awakens**.

... Who is the hero?

... Who is the son?

... What is meant by **awakens**?

A historic note regarding the governmental system at this time. The assembly was men. The kings were not absolute rulers, but rather were subject to laws and traditions. King Odysseus 'rule like a father.' There existed a form of participation in government that would eventually become one of the most important Greek contributions to western civilization.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 3

What ever became of Akhilleus, Agamemnon, Menelaos? In this book you will learn what happened to many of the Greek heroes of the Iliad.

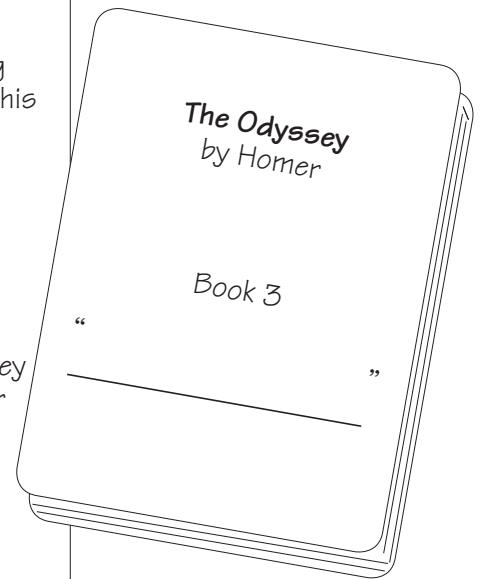
This book opens with Athena, in the disguise of Mentor, giving advice to Telemakhos about what to do in lines 1 - 33. Describe this scene.

☆ They arrive and are invited to feast together. However, they are asked to pray to Poseidon first. What do we learn about their view of the gods in lines 52 and 53? And what three things were prayed. [lines 60 - 66]

☆ In lines 75 - 81 a series of questions are asked. How did Telemakhos respond? [lines 82-109]

☆ Recount Nestor's description of the last days of the war, his view of Odysseus, his view of the gods (in particular, his view of Zeus), and the conflict between Agamemnon and Menelaos. [lines 110 - 360]

Read Book Three.



Use a highlight marker to emphasize all descriptions of Odysseus

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☆ Telemakhos asks Nestor to explain how Agamemnon died. What did he answer? [lines 258 - ]

☆ The wanderings of Menelaos is described in the next section. Who was the cause of his misfortunes?

☆ Why did Nestor say that there was no fear for Telemakhos?  
[lines 403 - 417]

☆ How did they end the day? [lines 412 - 435]

☆ How did they begin the next day? [lines 451 - ]

The book ends with Telemakhos and Peisistratos traveling to speak with Menelaos.

☆ What did we learn about the fate of Akhilleus, Agamemnon, and Menelaos?

☆ What do we learn about the fate of Odysseus?

☆ The title given to this book by Fitzgerald is *The Lord of the Western Approaches*. Is this a good title? Make up your own title and write it in the space provided on GRWV Page 103.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 4

At the end of the *Iliad* do we know who won the war or how it was won? Whatever happened to Helen? This book will give us some answers to these and other questions.

☆ This book opens at a wedding feast at the mansion of Menelaos. He welcomed them and invited them to eat [lines 63-69]. What did Telemakhos think about the court of Menelaos? [lines 70 - 81]

☆ As Menelaos remembers the war and the dead he speaks of one who he missed more than any other. Who was this man? [lines 82 -124]

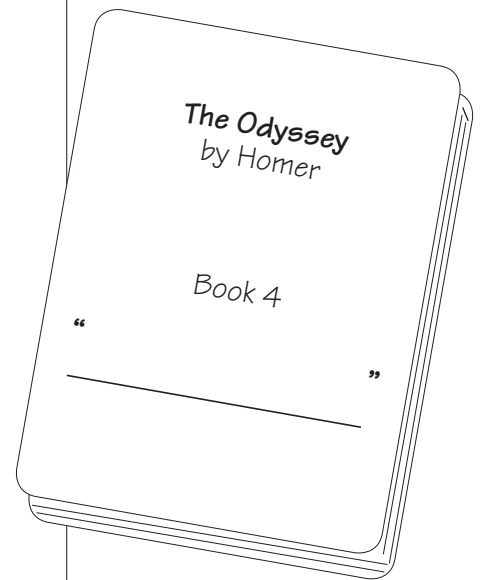
☆ Helen enters. How is she described?

☆ Both Menelaos and Helen believe that their visitor is the son of Odysseus. It is Nestor's son, however, who reveals their identity. [lines 166 -179] How do they respond?

☆ Helen is the daughter of \_\_\_\_\_ [line 197]. She drugs the drink and begins speaking in lines 252. How does she describe Zeus?

☆ Before retiring for the evening Menelaos and Helen give a brief recount of Odysseus. What was said about Odysseus? What is this hollow horse?

Read Book Four.



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☆ Beginning with line 340 Telemakhos explains to Menelaos why he came such a long distance. What did he say?

☆ How does Menelaos respond? [lines 157 - ]

☆ Why was Menelaos detained from returning home and how was this resolved? [line 378 - ]

☆ Beginning with line 525 what do we learn of the fate of three heroes?

Aias:

Agamemnon:

Odysseus (Laertes' son):

☆ The scene then cuts away to the suitors [beginning with line 668]. What plot do the suitors plan?

☆ How does Penelope respond to the news? What is her view of Zeus?

☆ Describe the prayer of Penelope. [lines 813 - 819]

☆ How does Athena respond? [lines 848 - 895]

☆ Give this book a title that tells what this book is about and write it in the space provided on GRWY Page 105.

# THE ODYSSEY

## Books 1 - 4

### THE ODYSSEY BOOK 5

Read Book Five.

☆ Where does this book open?

☆ What does Athena ask and how does Zeus respond? [lines 1 - 30]

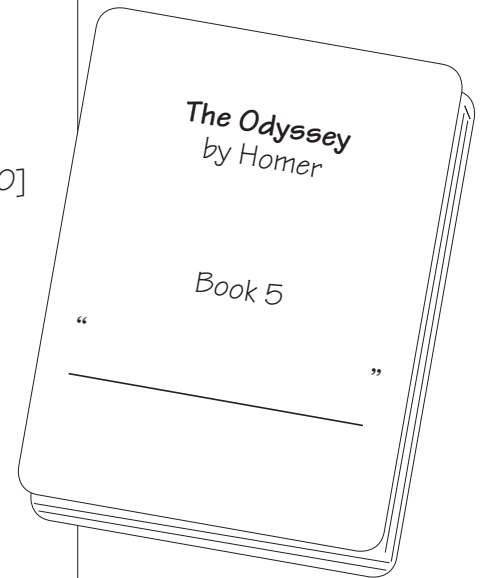
☆ What does Zeus tell Hermes to do? [lines 31 - 47]

☆ What does Zeus say about the will and words of the gods? [line 34]

☆ Where does Hermes go? [lines 48 - ]

☆ According to Hermes why was Odysseus lost at sea and what is his destiny? [lines 111 - 121]

☆ What words are used to describe Odysseus? [lines 86 - 89]



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☆ Underline phrases describing Zeus and the other gods?  
For example, **Zeus made me come** [line 105].  
**vile gods**, [line 124]

☆ After Hermes leaves, Kalypso tells Odysseus that she will help him return home. How does Odysseus respond? [lines 181 - 190]

☆ Where is Odysseus' heart? [ lines 212 - 233]

☆ Odysseus has been sailing for 'seventeen nights and days in the open water' [line 288]. What happens beginning with line 292?

☆ What does the god of earthquake (Poseidon) say about the other gods?

☆ Poseidon sends a hurricane to destroy Odysseus. How does Odysseus respond? [lines 307 - 396]

☆ What does Odysseus think about the gods? Does he trust them?

☆ What does Athena do to help Odysseus? [lines 397 - ]

☆ How does the book end? [line 443 - 519]

☆ Give this book a title that tells what this book is about and write it in the space provided on GRWV Page 107.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOKS 6 THROUGH 8

In these three books Odysseus is found in the land of Phaiakian where he has been washed ashore. You should read these books as a unit. As you do observe and highlight comments made about ...

☆ The involvement of the gods in the affairs of men.

For example, in Book VI lines 16 - 19 we read  
**so on this night the goddess, grey-eyed Athena,  
entered the palace of Alkinoos  
to make sure of Odysseus' voyage home.  
She took her way to a painted bedchamber...**

☆ The character of Odysseus.

☆ Nature of the King and Queen.

☆ The character of the city.

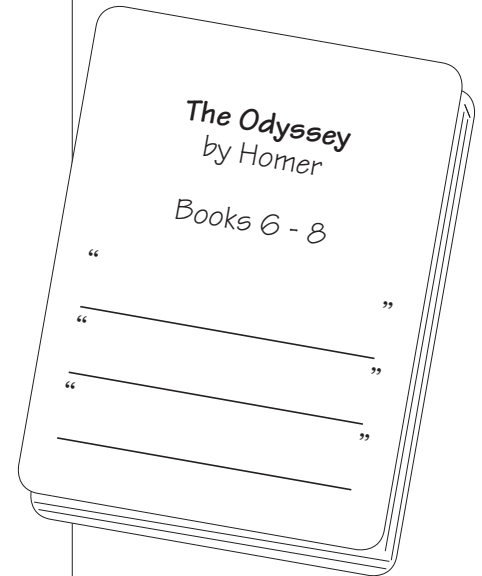
☆ The life of the people in this city.

☆ The labor of the people.

☆ Fate.

☆ The retelling of the adventures by Odysseus.

Read Books Six through Eight.



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☆ What *Odysseus* requests of the King.

☆ The response of the King to *Odysseus*.

☆ *Odysseus*' attitude toward the gods.

☆ The 'Olympic' games.

☆ The immorality of the gods.

☆ The wooden horse.

☆ What was Book VI about?

Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

☆ What was Book VII about?

Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

☆ What was Book VIII about?

Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

# THE ODYSSEY

## Books 9 - 12

### THE ODYSSEY BOOKS 9 - 12

These books form another grouping. Odysseus is addressing the King and says, "But now you wish to know my cause for sorrow...what shall I say first? What shall I keep until the end? The gods have tried me in a thousand ways. But first my name; let that be known to you, and if I pull away from pitiless death, friendship will bind us, though my land lies far. I am Laertes' son, Odysseus" [Book IX lines 12-20]. Odysseus begins to recount his adventures to the King. Describe the various adventures. Look for:

WHO was involved? • WHAT happens? • WHEN does it happens?  
WHERE does it happens? • Why does it happens?

★ As you read these books highlight comments made about

... THE GODS.

**The gods have tried me in a thousand ways** Book IX line 16

... THE CHARACTER OF ODYSSEUS.

**Men hold me formidable for guile** Book IX line 22

### The Adventures of Odysseus

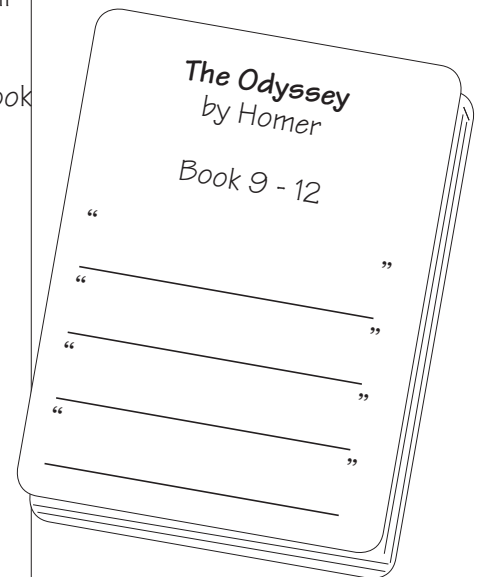
#### BOOK IX

1 - The coast of the Kikones — [lines 41 - ]

2 - The land of the Lotos Eaters — [lines 86 - ]

3 - The land of the Kyklopes — [lines 113 - ]

Read Book Nine through Twelve.



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**BOOK X**

4 - Aiolia Island

5 - The land of Laistrygonia [ lines 86 - ]

6 - The island of Kirke [ lines 149 - ]

**BOOK XI**

7 - Hades

Who does Odysseus meet in Hades?

What does Odysseus learn while in Hades?

Notice all references to the Gods.

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## BOOK XII

Odysseus returns from 'the homes of Death' to Kirke. She prophesies his future trials and gives her advice about ...

The island of the Seirenes [lines 44 - ]

The den of Skylla and Kharybdis [ lines 72 - ]

The island of Helios [lines 150 - ]

8 - The island of the seirenes [171 - ]

9 - The den of Skylla and Kharybdis [ lines 255 - ]

10 - The island of Helios [lines 339 - ]

11 - The land of Kalypso [lines 565 - ]

☆ What were these books about?

Give titles to each of these four books and write them in the space provided.



# THE ODYSSEY

## Books 13 - 16

### ODYSSEUS, THE HERO

Before beginning the next section, consider the character qualities of Odysseus as revealed to this point in the story. Make a list of words and phrases that describe his life.

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Circle **one word in each row** that you think **best** describes Odysseus.

Draw a rectangle around the **one word in each row** that you think **least** describes Odysseus.

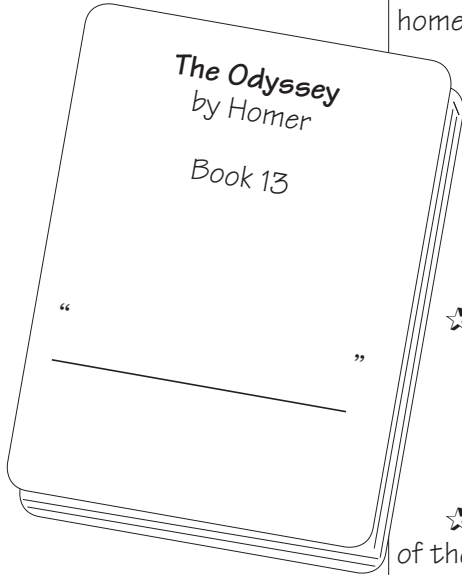
- |     |               |               |               |                   |
|-----|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 1.  | Restrained    | Forceful      | Careful       | Expressive        |
| 2.  | Pioneering    | Correct       | Emotional     | Satisfied         |
| 3.  | Willing       | Animated      | Bold          | Precise           |
| 4.  | Stubborn      | Bashful       | Indecisive    | Unpredictable     |
| 5.  | Respectful    | Out-going     | Patient       | Determined        |
| 6.  | Persuasive    | Self-reliant  | Cooperative   | Gentle            |
| 7.  | Cautious      | Even-tempered | Decisive      | Life-of-the party |
| 8.  | Popular       | Assertive     | Perfectionist | Generous          |
| 9.  | Unpredictable | Bashful       | indecisive    | Argumentative     |
| 10. | Agreeable     | Optimistic    | Persistent    | Accommodating     |
| 11. | Positive      | Humble        | Neighborly    | Talkative         |
| 12. | Friendly      | Obliging      | Playful       | Strong-willed     |
| 13. | Charming      | Adventurous   | Disciplined   | Consistent        |

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 13

- Read Book Thirteen.

This book extends the plot of the *Odyssey*, but more importantly expands our view of the Greek gods. Zeus, Athena, and Poseidon are the major gods in the *Odyssey*. As you read this book mark words or phrases that describe their nature and character.

This book opens with a farewell and celebration. At last Odysseus is homeward bound.



- ☆ Describe the prayers and offerings offered to the gods. [lines 1 - 79]

- ☆ Read lines 79 through 152. What happens in this passage?

- ☆ Notice the first word of line 152. Describe the attitude and action of the god that shakes the islands (Poseidon). [lines 152 - 235]

- ☆ What does Alkinoos say his father had prophesied and did it come to pass? [lines 215 - 235]

- ☆ Odysseus, who is still sleeping, is laid on the beach. When he awakes does he know where he is and what is his attitude? [lines 236 - 276]

- ☆ Who is the first person Odysseus meets and what advise does this person give? [lines 276 - ]

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☆ What insight in the character of *Odysseus* do we gain from the following passages?

... lines 318 - 325

... 370 - 382

... 417 - 424

☆ Athena explained to *Odysseus* that “I am always with you in times of trial, a shield to you in battle” [lines 384 - 396]. How did *Odysseus* respond to this knowledge? [lines 397 - ]

☆ Why was *Poseidon* so angry with *Odysseus*? [lines 425 - ]

☆ In line 444 we read “Then indeed *Odysseus*’ heart stirred with joy. He kissed the earth, and lifting up his hands prayed to the nymphs.” What was the basis of his excitement?

☆ Contrast the wife of *Odysseus* with the wife of *Agamemnon*?  
[lines 472 - 479]

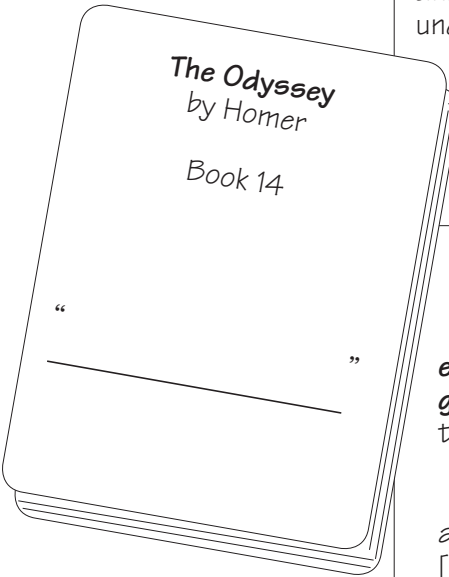
☆ What plan does Athena set into action? [lines 499 - ]

☆ Fitzgerald titled this book **One More Strange Island**. Write your title in the space provided on the previous page.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 14

- Read Book Fourteen.

At the close of Book 13 Odysseus has been disguised by Athena so that “not a soul will know you, the clear skin of your arms and legs shriveled, your chestnut hair all gone, your body dressed in sacking that a man would gag to see, and the two eyes, that were so brilliant, dirtied — contemptible, you shall seem to your enemies, as to the wife and son you left behind” [Book XIII, lines 500 - 506]. This book is a dialogue between Odysseus and his faithful swineherd. During these conversations we gain greater understanding of how the Greeks viewed their gods.



★ As you read this book record statements made by the swineherd and Odysseus about their gods in the chart below.

### THEIR VIEW OF THE GODS

#### The Swineherd

As though I had not **trouble enough already, given me by the gods**, my master gone, true king that he was [lines 45 - 46].

I told you the **gods**, long ago, **hindered our lord's return** [lines 74 - 75].

**God curse** the race of Helen **and cut it down**, that wrung the strength out of the knees of many! [lines 84 - 85]

The **gods living in bliss** are fond of no wrongdoing, but **honor discipline and right behavior** [lines 101 - 103].

#### Odysseus

**May Zeus and all the gods give you your heart's desire** for taking me in so kindly, friend [lines 62 - 63].

Then came the day when Zeus who views the wide world ... [lines 275 - 276].

What is said about the character of Odysseus?

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The Swineherd's view of the gods

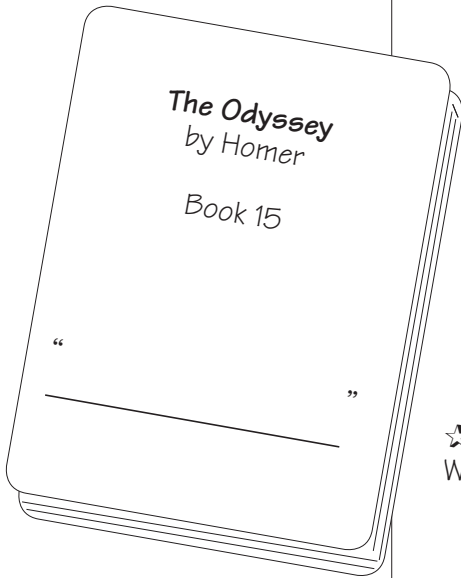
Odysseus' view of the gods

The Character of Odysseus

☆ Fitzgerald titled this book **Hospitality in the Forest**.  
Write your title in the space provided on the previous page.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 15

- Read Book Fifteen.



★ What do the opening lines tell us about the Greeks belief regarding the gods involvement in the affairs of men? [lines 1 - 59]

★ What advice and warning does Athena give to Telemakhos? [lines 1 - 59]

★ Would you say that Telemakhos has the blessings of the gods? What evidence would you cite for your answer?

★ How does Telemakhos respond to Athena?

★ As Telemakhos bids farewell an omen, a bird sign, was given. Describe the sign and gives its interpretation. [lines 185 - 229]

★ With line 373 the scene switches to Odysseus and the swineherd. What do we learn from these conversations?

★ With line 599 the story shifts back to Telemakhos. Another sign is given. What does it mean?

★ Fitzgerald titled this book **How They Came to Ithaka**. What did he mean by it? Write your title in the space provided on the space provided.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 16

This book begins with a conversation between the swineherd, the beggar (Odysseus), and Telemakhos. Describe these conversations.

☆ What do we learn about Telemakhos?

☆ What do we learn about Odysseus?

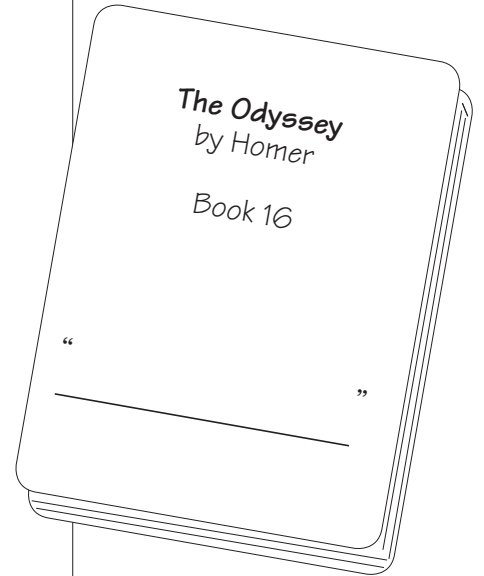
☆ What do we learn about the gods?

☆ What directions are given to Odysseus by Athena? [lines 182 - ]

☆ How does Odysseus reveal himself to his son? And what does his son think? [lines 210 - ]

☆ Describe the meeting of father and son.

Read Book Sixteen.



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☆ What plan do *Odysseus* and *Telemakhos* devise? [lines 309 - 383]

☆ With line 384 the story shifts. What begins to happen in this section?

☆ How do the suitors respond to the news that *Telemakhos* had returned to Ithaka?  
[lines 410 - 49]

☆ Fitzgerald titled this book **Father and Son**. Is this a good title  
Write this title or your own in the space provided.

☆ Record any new insights you have gained during the week into the life and character of *Odysseus*.

☆ Record any new insights you have gained during the week into the character of the gods.

# THE ODYSSEY

## Books 17 - 20

### THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 17

Telemakhos and Odysseus (disguised as a beggar man) begin to implement their plan and travel to the city.

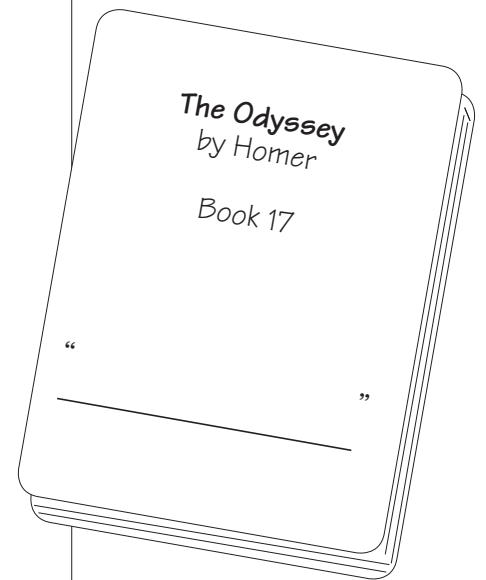
☆ Describe the reuniting of Telemakhos and his mother.  
[lines 44 - ]

☆ What did Telemakhos tell his mother to do?

☆ Penelope is eager to learn of the news Telemakhos may have regarding Odysseus. Beginning with line 140 Telemakhos begins to recount his journey. Summarize his description.

☆ What does Theoklymenos, the diviner, say about Odysseus?  
[lines 188 - 209]

Read Book Seventeen.



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☆ 'Meanwhile, the suitors broke up their games and [gathered to] feast....During these hours Odysseus and the swineherd were on their way out of the hills to town.' Along the way Melanthios, the goat herd, joins Odysseus and the swineherd. Describe their conversation. What do we learn about Odysseus' character during this exchange? [lines 270 -334]

☆ Odysseus, at long last, is at the gate to his home [line 334]. Argos, an old hound that he had 'trained as a puppy' more than 20 years ago recognized his master and died. The swineherd and Odysseus enter the palace. Retell the conversations in this section. [lines 423 - 666]

☆ What do you learn about Odysseus by listening to these conversations?

☆ What is said about Zeus and the other gods?

☆ What does Penelope hope to learn by questioning the old beggar man?  
[lines 663 - 735]

☆ How does Odysseus respond to Penelope's request?  
[lines 736 - 773]

☆ Write a title in the space provided on the previous page.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 18

☆ Describe the conflict between Iros, a public tramp, and Odysseus.

Read Book Eighteen.

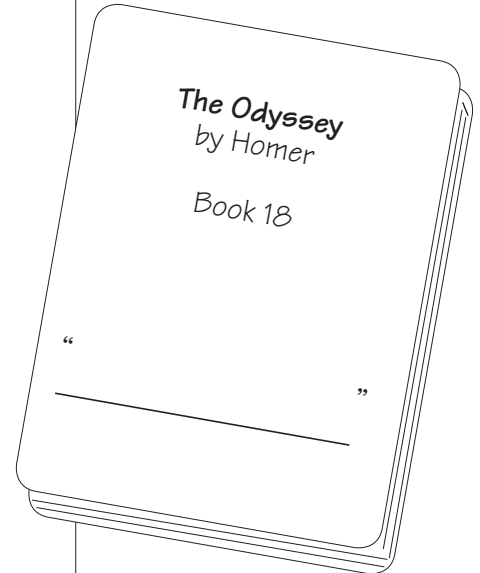
☆ What plea does Odysseus' make to Amphinomos and how does he respond [lines 152 - 199]

☆ Enters Penelope [lines 200 - 340]. How is she described?

☆ What does Odysseus say to the housemaids and how do they respond? [ 383 - 494]

☆ How does Telemakhos conclude the evening? [495 -520]

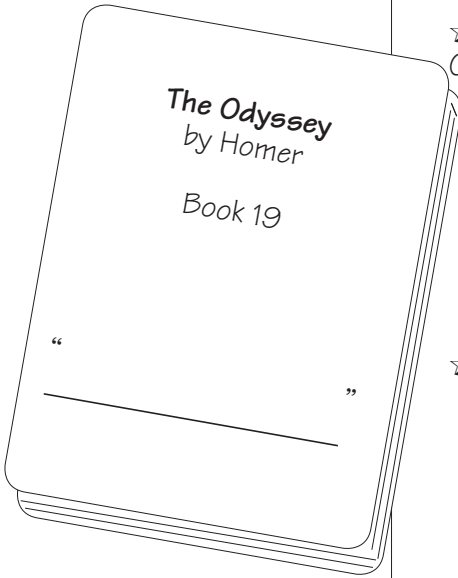
☆ Write a title for this book in the space provided on this page.



## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 19

### Read Book Nineteen.

Fitzgerald gives this book an interesting title: **Recognitions and a dream**. As you read the book look for who or what is recognized and any dreams.



★ Book 18 ends with the suitors going home. Book 19 begins with Odysseus and Telemakhos in conversation implementing their strategy. How does Odysseus conduct himself? Is this consistent with your view of his character?

★ Recognition Number 1: [lines 28 - 64]

★ Penelope and Odysseus begin to converse [line 120 - 409].  
What do we learn about ...

Odysseus

Penelope

the gods

★ Does Penelope recognize the old beggar man? [lines 410 - 421]

★ What does Eurykleia, the old nurse, say about the situation in lines 422 - 446?

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☆ Describe the conversation between the nurse and Odysseus in lines 440 - 584.

☆ During this dialogue we have a second recognition.  
Recognition Number 2:

☆ Explain how Odysseus was given his name?

☆ Penelope begins talking with the old beggar man in line 589.  
She tells of a dream in lines 620 - 633.

#### THE DREAM

#### THE INTERPRETATION

- *The Geese*
- *The mountain eagle*
- *Death of the geese*

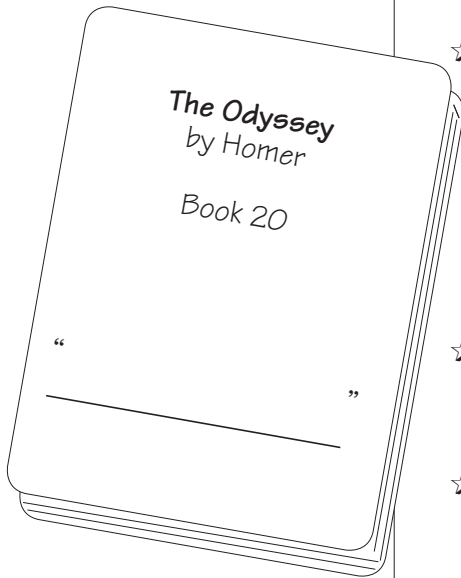
☆ How does Penelope respond to the interpretation given by the old beggar man? [lines 649 - ]

☆ What contest does Penelope plan and what does Odysseus think about the it?

☆ Was Fitzgerald's title appropriate for this book?  
Either write this title in the space provided or write your own.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 20

- Read Book Twenty.



This book is entitled **Signs and a Vision**. The Greek view of history understood an interrelationship between the seen and unseen world. As you are reading this book highlight all supernatural signs that are given as well as any visions.

- ★ Describe the conversation between Odysseus and Athena in the opening passage. [lines 1 - 63]
- ★ Describe the prayer of Penelope. [lines 64 - 101]
- ★ Describe the prayer of Odysseus. [lines 109 - 113]
- ★ How did Zeus respond to the prayers? [114 - 138]
- ★ What does this tell about the Greek view of life?
- ★ Describe the suitors response to the old beggar man. What do we learn about Odysseus?
- ★ A vision is given by Theoklymenos [lines 393 - 414] Describe the vision...the response of the young men, and the final comment by the man with the vision.
- ★ Describe the confrontation between the suitors and Telemakhos as the book concludes. [lines 415 - 439]
- ★ How are the suitors portrayed in this book? What does it say about them in the last several lines. What do you expect Odysseus to do?
- ★ Write a title for this book in the space provided.

# THE ODYSSEY

## Books 21 - 24

### THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 21

Remember from an earlier book [See Book 19] Penelope devises a plan to determine who she would marry. What was that plan?

Fitzgerald give this book the title **The Test of the Bow**.  
What do you think is going to happen in this book?

☆ Describe how Odysseus came to have this special bow?  
[lines 15 - 41]

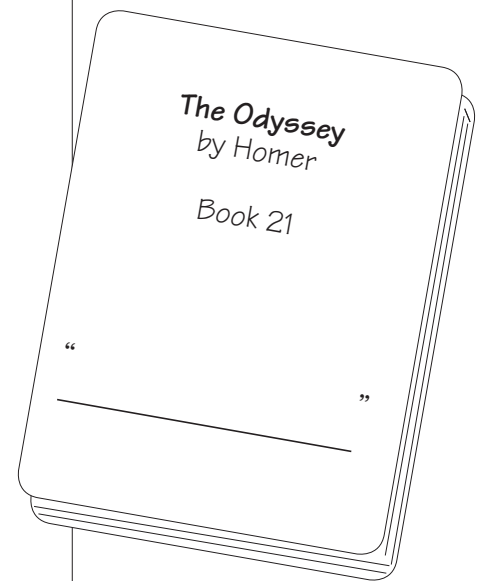
☆ What does Penelope promise in lines 71 - 83.

☆ Beginning with line 152 the suitors try the bow.  
Describe the results.

☆ What does the old beggar man reveal to the swineherd and the cowherd. [lines 210 - ]

☆ What distinguished these two men from the rest?

Read Book Twenty-one.



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☆ What sign of evidence does Odysseus give?

☆ What orders does Odysseus give these two men?

☆ What does Eurymakhos say about the inability to even hitch the string over Odysseus' bow?  
[line 281 - 289]

☆ What did Odysseus propose beginning with line 310 and what was the response?

☆ Describe how Odysseus handled the bow. How well did he shoot?

☆ What was Odysseus the only one who could use the bow?

☆ What was the response of Zeus?

☆ What do you think the suitors were thinking now?

☆ What title do you give this book? Write your title in the space provided on the previous page.

## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 22

☆ The opening the this book is a continuation of the previous one. What does Odysseus do next? What did the suitors think was happening?

Read Book Twenty-two.

☆ When do they realize that the old beggar man is Odysseus?

☆ What does Eurymakhos say to the revelation that the old beggar man is really Odysseus? [lines 44 - 62]

☆ How does Odysseus respond? [lines 63 - ]

☆ Describe the fighting.

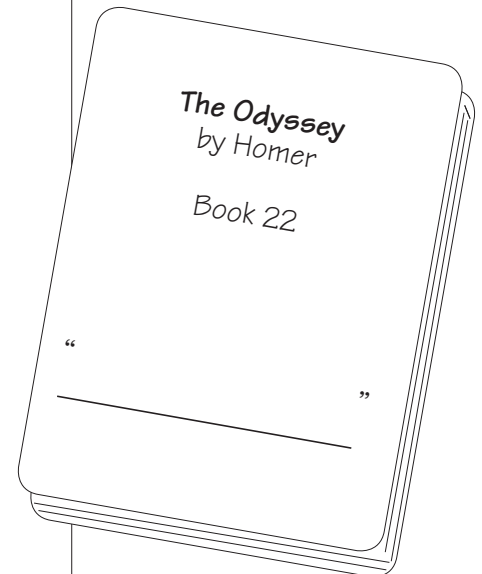
☆ How does Athena get involved in the fighting?

☆ Who is spared in the fighting? Is there any justification for these two people being given grace and mercy?

☆ When the nurse, Eurykleia, is brought out she wanted to shout for joy. What does Odysseus think about this? [lines 460 - 468] What does this say about the character of Odysseus?

☆ What does Odysseus make the suitors' harlots do? [lines 481 - ]

☆ Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

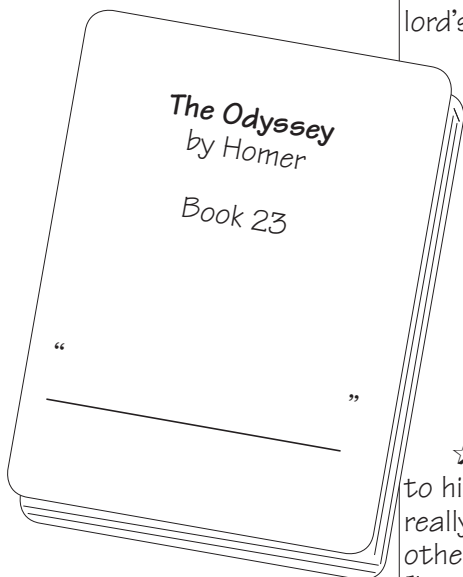


## THE ODYSSEY: BOOK 23

- ☐ Read Book Twenty-three.

Fitzgerald gives this book an interesting title, *The Trunk of the Olive Tree*. What could it mean?

★ “The old nurse went upstairs exulting...to tell the mistress of her lord’s return.” What did Penelope think about this revelation? Describe several of the conversations in this section.



★ Finally, Penelope answered: “I am stunned, child. I cannot speak to him. I cannot question him. I cannot keep my eyes upon his face. If really he is Odysseus, truly home, beyond all doubt we two shall know each other better than you or anyone. There are secret signs we know, we two” [lines 119 - 125]. What are the secret signs?

★ Describe how Penelope responded when she was sure that the old beggar man was indeed her husband, Odysseus?

★ What is the “one trial...left for me to see fulfilled” [lines 278 - 283]. What must Odysseus do? [lines 293 - 321]

★ What were the final words said by Odysseus to Penelope about his trials? [lines 393 - 421]

★ Explain the meaning of Fitzgerald’s title, *The Trunk of the Olive Tree*.

★ Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

## THE ODYSSEY BOOK 24

This is the last book of the *Odyssey*. It contains three main scenes.

Read Book Twenty-four.

### — SCENE NUMBER ONE —

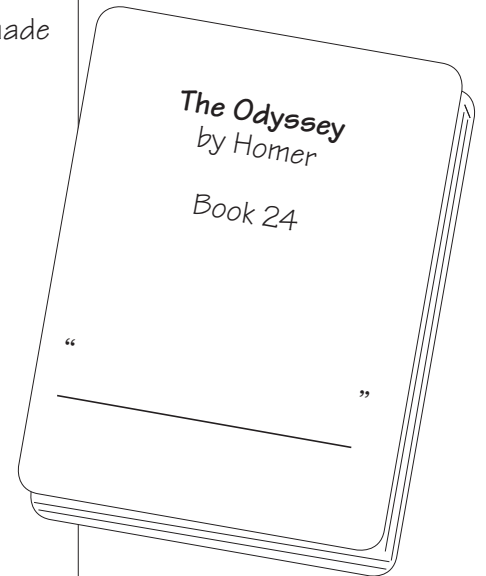
☆ In the first 230 lines the Greek view of the unseen world is made visible. What is the opening scene of this final book?

☆ Make a list of the people we meet in the underworld.

☆ Describe the conversation between Akhilleus and Agamemnon.

☆ How are the gods thought of even in the underworld?

☆ Contrast Agamemnon's wife to Odysseus' wife.



— SCENE NUMBER 2 —

☆ We move to the *seen* world beginning with line 231. Where does Odysseus go? Describe the reunion of Odysseus with his father. What proof does Odysseus give that he is truly who he claims to be?

☆ What does Athena do to Odysseus?

— SCENE NUMBER 3 —

☆ Beginning with line 455 the *scene* again shifts. Describe this scene.

☆ Another glimpse into the *unseen* world occurs beginning with line 521. Who is talking and what is said?

☆ The angry relatives of the suitors come to revenge their dead beginning with line 540. How does the conflict end?

☆ Give this book a title and write it in the space provided.

☆ As you consider both the **Iliad** and the **Odyssey**, are there any loose ends that were not tied together?

☆ Are there still things you would like to know about any of the events or people in either the **Iliad** or the **Odyssey**?

☆ The final book in the Greco-Roman poetic trilogy, **The Aeneid**, will follow the study of the Greek philosophers.

# THE ODYSSEY

## The Hero

### ODYSSEUS, A CHARACTER SKETCH

#### PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

- What words were used to describe his physical appearance?

#### CHARACTER

- Circle **one word in each row** that you think **best** describes Odysseus.
- Draw a rectangle around the **one word in each row** that you think **least** describes Odysseus.

1. Soft-spoken	Dry-humor	Aggressive	Attractive
2. Enthusiastic	Analytical	Sympathetic	Determined
3. Bossy	Inconsistent	Slow	Critical
4. Sensitive	Forceful	Spirited	Laid-back
5. Influential	Kind	Independent	Orderly
6. Idealistic	Popular	Cheerful	Outspoken
7. Impatient	Moody	Aimless	Show-off
8. Competitive	Spontaneous	Loyal	Thoughtful
9. Self-sacrificing	Considerate	Convincing	Courageous
10. Fearful	Changeable	Pessimistic	Tactless

#### LEADERSHIP

- Place a check mark (✓) in the spaces provided.

Which phrase best describe his basic motivation:

<input type="checkbox"/> Results and freedom to act...	<input type="checkbox"/> Recognition and approval ...
<input type="checkbox"/> Relationships and appreciation ...	<input type="checkbox"/> To be right!

Which words best describe his greatest strengths:

<input type="checkbox"/> Effective	<input type="checkbox"/> Optimistic	<input type="checkbox"/> Supportive	<input type="checkbox"/> Orderly
<input type="checkbox"/> Decisive	<input type="checkbox"/> Personable	<input type="checkbox"/> Agreeable	<input type="checkbox"/> Thorough
<input type="checkbox"/> Persistent	<input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiastic	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyal	<input type="checkbox"/> Analytical

Which words best describe his greatest weaknesses:

<input type="checkbox"/> Insensitive	<input type="checkbox"/> Overselling	<input type="checkbox"/> Conforming	<input type="checkbox"/> Picky
<input type="checkbox"/> Impatient	<input type="checkbox"/> Manipulative	<input type="checkbox"/> Retiring	<input type="checkbox"/> Too detailed
<input type="checkbox"/> Inflexible	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of	<input type="checkbox"/> Missed Opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/> Too cautious

When under pressure how does he behave?

<input type="checkbox"/> Autocratic	<input type="checkbox"/> Attacks	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquiesces	<input type="checkbox"/> Avoids
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## WRITING ASSIGNMENT — A CHARACTER SKETCH OF ODYSSEUS

An *essay* is a composition which illustrates a particular subject. You are to write an *essay* describing the character *Odysseus*. The stages of this writing assignment will include: (1) making an outline; (2) writing paragraphs from the outline; (3) joining paragraphs together with transitional sentences; (4) writing an introductory paragraph and a concluding paragraph; and (5) giving the work a title. The completed writing assignment will detail the major characteristics of this Greek hero. At the conclusion of each part of the *essay* have an adult go over it with you for additions and corrections.

### MAKING AN OUTLINE

An outline is a general sketch of the composition. The outline allows you to see the **big picture** and the **supporting details** at the same time. (See the following pages.) For this assignment the nature and character of *Odysseus* serves as the theme or main idea. Let these three characteristics serve as the body of the outline.

#### THE NATURE AND CHARACTER OF ODYSSEUS

- I. His Basic Motivation
- II. His Greatest Strengths and/or Weaknesses
- III. His Natural Tendency Under Pressure

- Using your notes from the *Odyssey* fill in the outline. At least two characteristics should be under each major area.
- Next, it is important to illustrate both characteristics of *Odysseus* with specific examples. Add these to the outline.
- Complete the outline. Each major section (each roman numeral) will need at least two subsections. Each of these subsections will need at least two illustrations. Each main section will become a paragraph of the *essay*.

### INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

The introductory paragraph should start with several thought provoking sentences. It should state the main idea of the whole composition in an attracting way. This paragraph acts like a **preview** of what is to follow. Write an introductory paragraph to your *essay* first.

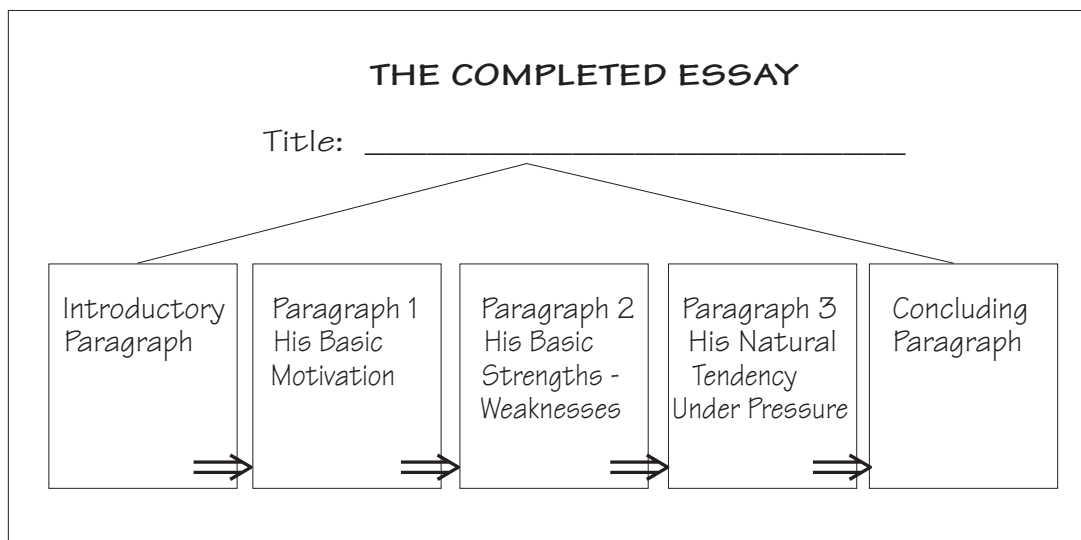
### CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

The final paragraph often summarizes the *essay* by restating briefly the main idea. In addition, the writer often presents a concluding thought about the subject of the paper. Write a concluding paragraph to your *essay*. This paragraph should leave the reader with as few questions as possible. Write this paragraph after the Introductory Paragraph.

## WRITING A PARAGRAPH

A paragraph is a group of sentences relating to a particular point, a single idea. Although each paragraph will contain several sentences, it will have only one main idea. The topic sentence in the paragraph clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. Write the topic sentence for each paragraph. The next sentences in the paragraph will fill in the details of the topic sentence. These sentences will support and illustrate the main idea. Using your outline, write a paragraph for each main idea.

An essay has one overall objective. It is a unit and must have continuity of thought. In order to keep the paragraphs from being unrelated to each other, each paragraph needs one more sentence. This is the last sentence in the paragraph. This sentence acts like a bridge between the paragraphs joining them together. This sentence is called a transitional sentence. It points out the relationship between two paragraphs. Write topic sentences for paragraphs one and two.



## THE TITLE

An essay is a complete thought. The title should reflect the main idea of the essay. There are certain characteristics that a title should have:

- 1 - It should be short.
- 2 - It should be to the point
- 3 - It should capture the interest of the reader.

Write a title for your essay.

## THE FINAL FORM

As you rewrite the essay in its final form make sure to follow all rules of grammar and form. The following is a partial list of such rules.

- 1 - The title should use capital letters.
- 2 - Indent the first word of every paragraph.
- 3 - Use your best hand writing.

MY OUTLINE

PARAGRAPH  
DEVELOPMENT

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I. \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSITIONAL  
SENTENCE

II. \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

TRANSITIONAL  
SENTENCE

III. \_\_\_\_\_

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_













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## WRITING ASSIGNMENT — THE GREEK WORLD VIEW

An *essay* is a composition which illustrates a particular subject. You are to write an *essay* explaining the Greek world view. The stages of this writing assignment will include: (1) making an outline; (2) writing paragraphs from the outline; (3) joining paragraphs together with transitional sentences; (4) writing an introductory paragraph and a concluding paragraph; and (5) giving the work a title. The completed writing assignment will explain three major characteristics of the Greek world view. At the conclusion of each part of the *essay* have an adult go over it with you for additions and corrections.

### MAKING AN OUTLINE

An outline is a general sketch of the composition. The outline allows you to see the **big picture** and the **supporting details** at the same time. (See the following pages.) For this assignment the Greek world view as seen through the life of Odysseus will serve as the theme or main idea.

#### The Greek World View

##### I. Odysseus' View of the Gods

##### II. Odysseus' View of Death and Life After Death

##### III. Odysseus' View of Man

- Using your notes from the **Iliad** fill in the outline. At least two significant ideas should be under each major area.
- Next, it is important to illustrate each idea. Add these to the outline.
- Complete the outline. Each major section (each roman numeral) will need at least two subsections. Each of these subsections will need at least two illustrations. Each main section will become a paragraph of the *essay*.

### INTRODUCTORY PARAGRAPH

The introductory paragraph should start with several thought provoking sentences. It should state the main idea of the whole composition in an attracting way. This paragraph acts like a **preview** of what is to follow. Write the **Introductory Paragraph** to your *essay* first.

### CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH

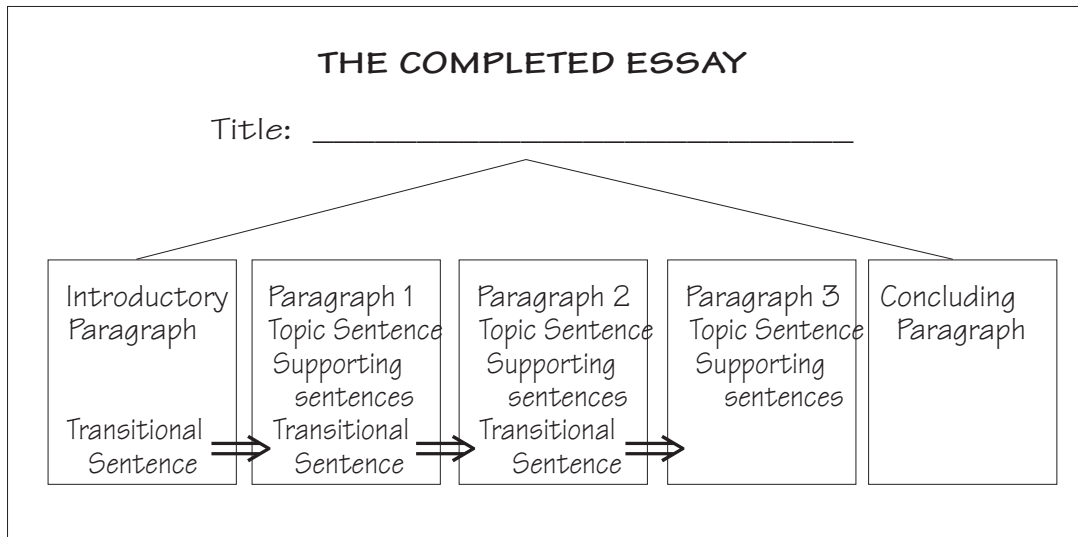
The final paragraph often summarizes the *essay* by restating briefly the main idea. In addition, the writer often presents a concluding thought about the subject of the paper. Write a concluding paragraph to your *essay*. This paragraph should leave the reader with as few questions as possible. Write the **Concluding Paragraph**.

### WRITING A PARAGRAPH

A paragraph is a group of sentences relating to a particular point, a single idea. Although each paragraph will contain several sentences, it will have only one main idea. Usually, the first sentence in the paragraph clearly states the main idea of the paragraph. It should relate the subpoints to the main idea. This sentence is called the **topic sentence**. Write the topic sentence for each paragraph.

The next sentences in the paragraph will fill in the details of the topic sentence. These sentences will support and illustrate the main idea. Using your outline, write a paragraph for each main idea.

An *essay* has one overall objective. It is a unit and must have continuity of thought. In order to keep the paragraphs from being unrelated to each other, each paragraph needs one more sentence. This is the last sentence in the paragraph. This sentence acts like a bridge between the paragraphs joining them together. This sentence is called a transitional sentence. It points out the relationship between two paragraphs. Write topic sentences for paragraphs one and two.



## THE TITLE

An *essay* is a *complete* thought. The title should reflect the main idea of the *essay*. There are certain characteristics that a title should have:

- 1 - It should be short.
- 2 - It should be to the point
- 3 - It should capture the interest of the reader.

Write a title for your *essay*.

## THE FINAL FORM

As you rewrite the *essay* in its final form make sure to follow all rules of grammar and form. The following is a partial list of such rules.

- 1 - The title should use *capital* letters.
- 2 - Indent the first word of every paragraph.
- 3 - Use your *best* hand writing.

MY OUTLINE

PARAGRAPH DEVELOPMENT

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I. Odysseus' View of the Gods

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TRANSITIONAL SENTENCE

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

II. Odysseus' View of Death & Life After Death

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TRANSITIONAL SENTENCE

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

III. Odysseus' View of Man

TOPIC SENTENCE

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_













Lined writing area consisting of 25 horizontal lines.





Lined writing area consisting of 30 horizontal lines.

