

The Odyssey Intro

Pgs. 740-749 & pg. 771



*** Information is not always listed in the order in which you read it in the book.

The person credited with telling the stories of the Trojan War and its aftermath is _____.

Troy was also called: _____

The Greeks were also called _____ or _____ (pg. 747)

Summary of information about the *Iliad*

A _____ year war fought _____.

This is the model story for an epic of _____.

It is set in the _____ year of the war between the Trojans and Spartans.

Summary of Information about the *Odyssey*

The story of a Greek soldier named _____ who wants to get home after the Trojan War.

This is the model story for an epic of _____.

About Odysseus

He is a hero in _____.

His story is melancholy and has a feeling of postwar _____.

He has a family (name them): _____

He is from _____

Themes in the *Odyssey*

1) The world is full of violence as evidence by examples from the story: _____

2) People are searching for the right _____ with one another and with the people around them.

3) People want to find their _____ places in life.

Vocabulary – define the following terms, using your purple literature book:

Epic: _____

Myth: _____

Alter Ego: _____

Rhapsodes: _____

Homeric/heroic similes: _____

Epithet (given in class): _____

Homeric epithet (given in class): _____

Guile (given in class): _____

Hubris (given in class): _____

Pg 771: Welcome: A Religious Duty

Hospitality is an ancient Greek tradition. It was a fundamentally _____ tradition before it became a part of social custom.

This god, _____, demanded that strangers be treated graciously.

_____ had a religious duty to welcome strangers and _____ had a responsibility to respect the host.

There had to be mutual _____ between both parties and this relationship is shown in the Greek word *xenos* which means both _____ and _____.

One example of this relationship is shown in the *Odyssey* by the presentation of _____.

Give three examples given on pg. 771 of when the laws of hospitality are violated:

The *Odyssey* Study Guide Questions

"Tell the Story" pg. 751

- 1) What literary term does this refer to: "gives his listeners hints about how his story is to end?"
- 2) Who are the Muses?
- 3) Why does Homer begin with an invocation to the Muse? (What does that mean?)
- 4) Why does Odysseus not return home with his fellow Greeks?
- 5) What does Homer tell you about the hero and what is going to happen to him?
- 6) List all of the epithets you see on pg. 751 and who each refers to.

"Calypso, The Sweet Nymph" pg. 752-754

- 7) What are Books 1-4 about?
- 8) How long has Odysseus been trying to get home?
- 9) When we meet Odysseus in Book 5, who is Odysseus a prisoner of?
- 10) What Olympian god tries to hurt Odysseus?
- 11) After leaving the island of Calypso, whose island does he end up on next?
- 12) What epic similes are found on pgs. 752 and 754?
- 13) Describe the elements of hospitality that you see on pgs. 752-754.
- 14) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"I am Laertes' Son" pg. 756-758

- 15) Who was Odysseus' father?
- 16) Where has Odysseus displayed his guile?
- 17) Where is Odysseus from?
- 18) According to lines 144-146, what does Odysseus want most?
- 19) After he left Troy, what was the first place he came to and what happened there? (lines 149-174)
- 20) Find two heroic similes on pg. 757.
- 21) Find an example of personification on pg. 757.
- 22) Describe how "flashback" is used in this story.
- 23) Describe the elements of hospitality found on these pages.
- 24) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"The Lotus Eaters" pg. 758

- 25) Summarize Odysseus' encounter with the Lotus Eaters.

"Troy Casts Its Spell" pg. 759

- 26) When did the real Trojan War take place?
- 27) What might have been the real reasons the war took place?
- 28) What was discovered at the level of earth called Troy II?
- 29) What was discovered at Troy VIIA?
- 30) What is the most likely location of Troy?

"The Cyclops" pg. 760-770

- 31) Describe the Cyclops.
- 32) Why is Odysseus called the cleverest of the Greeks?
- 33) What lie does Odysseus tell Polyphemus about his ship?
- 34) Why didn't Odysseus kill Polyphemus after he fell asleep?
- 35) What is personified in line 297?
- 36) List the 4 similes found on pg. 763.

- 37) Why does Odysseus seek revenge upon Polyphemus?
- 38) What was Odysseus' plan to both get revenge on and escape from Polyphemus?
- 39) Describe the epic similes found on pg. 765 & 766.
- 40) Who is Polyphemus' father?
- 41) Why don't the other Cyclopes seek revenge on Odysseus?
- 42) How was Odysseus able to escape from the Cyclopes' den?
- 43) What does Odysseus steal from Cyclops?
- 44) Explain Odysseus' "hubris" in this chapter.
- 45) What prayer does Polyphemus send to Poseidon? (explain lines 529-770).
- 46) What literary term does this prayer to Poseidon also show?
- 47) List the examples of "guile" that Odysseus displays in this chapter.
- 48) Describe the elements of hospitality seen in this chapter.
- 49) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"The Enchantress Circe" pg. 773-775

- 50) What favor does the wind king do for Odysseus?
- 51) How do Odysseus' men mess up the journey home?
- 52) Describe what happens when the men encounter the Laestrygonians.
- 53) Who lives on Aeaëa?
- 54) Why didn't Eurylochus go into Circe's home?
- 55) What did Circe give the men to eat and drink, and what happened to them next?
- 56) How does the Circe story similar to the Lotus Eaters?
- 57) How was Odysseus able to resist Circe's spell?
- 58) Why do Odysseus and his men stay on Circe's island?
- 59) Since the men want to return home, what does Circe tell Odysseus to do?
- 60) Describe the elements of hospitality seen in this chapter.

"The Land of the Dead" pg. 775-777

- 61) Explain who Teiresias is.
- 62) Explain the obstacles Odysseus has to overcome in order to make it home. (lines 624-631)
- 63) If the men eat the cattle, then what will happen to Odysseus and his men? (lines 632-637)
- 64) Where does Odysseus have to go to make a sacrifice to Poseidon?
- 65) If Odysseus does as Teiresias says, then what kind of death can he expect? (lines 654-658)
- 66) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"The Sirens & Scylla and Charybdis" pg. 778-783

- 67) What will happen if you hear the Sirens?
- 68) How can Odysseus' men avoid the Sirens song?
- 69) How will Odysseus avoid going to the Sirens?
- 70) Define "Harpies."
- 71) After the Sirens, what are the other two obstacles he has to get through before arriving on Helios' island?
- 72) List the similes that you see on pg. 780.
- 73) What is the Homeric simile found on pg. 783?
- 74) What two characters forbade Odysseus and his men from taking Helios' sheep?
- 75) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"The Cattle of the Sun God" pg. 784-786

- 76) What epithets are used to describe Helios in this section?
- 77) Why were the men on the island of Thrinakia for so long?

- 78) What caused the men to eat Helio's sheep?
- 79) What happened as a result of them eating the sheep?
- 80) How was "hubris" shown in this chapter?
- 81) Where did Odysseus arrive at next?
- 82) Describe the elements of hospitality seen in this chapter.

"Part Two: Coming Home" pg. 790

- 83) How does Odysseus finally get home to Ithaca?
- 84) What advice does Athena give Odysseus?
- 85) Describe Eumaeus.
- 86) How does Eumaeus show hospitality?
- 87) How does Telemachus know it is time to come home to Ithaca?
- 88) What is happening at the Palace of Odysseus in Book 15?

"The Meeting of Father and Son" pg. 791-794

- 89) How is hospitality shown here?
- 90) How was Odysseus revealed to his son?
- 91) List the Homeric simile found on pg. 794.
- 92) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"The Beggar and the Faithful Dog"/ "The Epic Continues" pg. 794-796

- 93) Describe Eurycleia.
- 94) What had the soothsayer told Penelope?
- 95) Who is Argos? What is so touching about this scene?
- 96) According to Eumaeus, what happens when servants are without a master?
- 97) What is the dramatic irony in this scene between Eumaeus and Odysseus?
- 98) On pg. 796, who has recognized Odysseus beneath the disguise?
- 99) How does Odysseus show hubris on pg. 796?
- 100) What does washing feet symbolize? Where else have you heard of a similar story?
- 101) How is the nurse able to recognize Odysseus?
- 102) What goddess continues to help and support Odysseus?
- 103) How is hospitality shown in this section?

"The Test of the Great Bow" pg. 798-802

- 104) What "impossible task" does Penelope assign her suitors?
- 105) How is Penelope's task similar to Atalanta's?
- 106) What two servants promise to fight with Odysseus?
- 107) What will be the servants's reward if Odysseus is successful in the challenge?
- 108) How did the servants recognize Odysseus?
- 109) How are the men going to help Odysseus? (lines 1164-1173)
- 110) How is the suitor's comment in line 1184 dramatic irony?
- 111) What is the heroic simile on pg. 802?
- 112) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.
- 113) How is hospitality shown in this section?

"Death at the Palace" pg. 803-805

- 114) What is the climax of the story?
- 115) Describe Antinous.
- 116) Who is described in this epithet: "the williest fighter of the islands?"

- 117) Why would Odysseus pray to Apollo in line 1226?
- 118) What is the heroic simile used on page 803?
- 119) Who did Odysseus shoot first?
- 120) Who tried to bargain with Odysseus?
- 121) Who is helping Odysseus in this fight (list humans and immortals)?
- 122) What sign appeared to the suitors in the hall? (lines 1287-1289)
- 123) What TWO heroic similes are used on pg. 805?
- 124) List all of the epithets you see in this section and who each refers to.

"Odysseus and Penelope" pg. 806-809

- 125) Were the servants punished justly? Why or why not.
- 126) Why does Penelope doubt Odysseus' identity?
- 127) What simile is on pg. 806?
- 128) How did Athena enhance Odysseus' appearance after he had bathed?
- 129) What was Penelope and Odysseus' secret sign?
- 130) Besides Penelope and Odysseus, who was the only other person to have seen this secret sign?
- 131) What heroic simile is on page 809?

"Ithaka" pg. 811

- 1) What is the extended metaphor expressed in this poem?
- 2) What do you think Ithaka symbolizes in this poem?