

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Odyssey*: Introduction

**Directions:** Read the preview of *The Odyssey* and answer the following using **complete sentences**.

1. In which country and time period were *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey* composed?

2. The city of Troy was thought to be imaginary, but what was found in 1871?

3. In which modern-day country was the legendary city of Troy located?

4. Why do some scholars believe several poets wrote *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*?

5. **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**, list the five characteristics of an epic poem:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6. What are the three important plot elements of *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*?

1.

2.

3.

7. When was the Trojan War?
8. What started the war?
9. Who was Odysseus?
10. How did Odysseus win the Trojan War for the Greek army?
11. At the beginning of the story, how many ships and men does Odysseus have?
12. What sets Odysseus apart from other heroes?
13. Why did Athena support the Greeks during the Trojan War?
14. Why did Aphrodite support Paris during the Trojan War?
15. Why is Odysseus forced to suffer many hardships before he returns home?
16. **IN YOUR OWN WORDS**, list the five tips to keep in mind as you read The Odyssey.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

*The Odyssey: Book IX*

**Directions:** Identify the following characters.

- Calypso -
- Alcinous -
- Laertes -
- Circe -
- Zeus -
- Cicones -
- Lotus Eaters -
- Cyclopes -
- Apollo -
- Poseidon -

Directions: Read *The Odyssey Book IX* (Pgs. 487-505) and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

Reading Tip: Odysseus is washed up on the eland of the Phaeacians where he where he begins to tell the story of his journey. Everything he talks about in Books 9-12 is a **FLASHBACK**. Therefore, Calypso's island is the Last portion of his journey, **NOT** the first.

1. What city does Odysseus and his men go to first after leaving Troy? What people live there? What happens when Odysseus gets there?

2. Whose land does Odysseus encounter after being blown off course for 9 days? What is the curse associated with that land?

3. What is the race of Polyphemus? Who is his father?

4. What does Polyphemus do to Odysseus' men two at a time?
5. Why doesn't Odysseus kill Polyphemus?
6. How does Odysseus put Polyphemus to sleep?
7. What does Odysseus do to Polyphemus' eye?
8. How do the men escape the cave?
9. What mistake does Odysseus make as he sails away? What are the consequences?

*The Odyssey: Book X*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Identify the following characters.

- Aeolus
  
- Laestrygon
  
- Eurylochus
  
- Hermes
  
- Persephone
  
- Tiresias

**Directions:** Read *The Odyssey Book X* (Pgs. 508-517) and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Who is Aeolus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What gift does Aeolus give Odysseus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. What do the men do with his gift?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
4. What is Aeolus' reaction?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. What happens on the land of the Laestrygon? How many men and ships are left?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. Who is not enticed by Circe's magic and tells Odysseus of the crew's fate?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What were Odysseus' men turned into?

8. How is Odysseus able to resist Circe's magic?

9. How long does Odysseus stay in Circe's palace?

10. Where does Circe tell Odysseus he must go to learn his way home and who must he see?

*The Odyssey: Book XI-XII*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Identify the following characters.

- Sirens
- Scylla
- Charybdis
- Helios

**Directions:** Read *The Odyssey: Book XII* (Pgs. 520-529) and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. Who does Odysseus see in the underworld?
2. What is a siren? What must Odysseus do if he wants to listen to them?
3. What advice does Circe give to battle Charybdis and Scylla? How many men will Odysseus lose?
4. What happens on Thrinacia? Is this Odysseus' fault? Why or why not?
5. How many men are left with Odysseus after Thrinacia?
6. Where does is Odysseus final destination before he meets up with King Alcinous? How long is he there?

*The Odyssey: Book XXI-XIII*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Identify the following characters.

Characters to Know:

- Antinous -
  
- Eurymachus –
  
- Telemachus
  
- Eumaeus –
  
- Philoetius -
  
- Eurycleia –

**Directions:** Read *The Odyssey: Books XXI-XXIII* (Pgs. 545-566) and answer the following questions in complete sentences.

1. How many suitors are in Odysseus' palace?
  
2. What competition must the suitors compete in to win Penelope? Identify both parts of the competition.
  - a.
  
  - b.
  
3. What is Odysseus disguised as?
  
4. Who does Odysseus recruit to help him against the suitors? What are their daily jobs?
  
5. What does Odysseus promise to the servants who help him?
  
6. What does Odysseus show the servants to prove that it is really him?



7. How does Eurymachus feel after his attempt with the bow? Quote the text.
8. Who is finally able to string the bow?

### **Book XXII**

1. Who does Odysseus kill first? How?
2. What reasons does Odysseus give for killing the suitors?
3. What does Eurymachus offer to Odysseus? What is Odysseus' response?
4. How is Eurymachus killed? What are his final thoughts?
5. Which god/goddess comes to the aid of Odysseus? How does he/she appear?

### **Book XXIII**

1. Why doesn't Penelope believe Odysseus?
2. Explain how Penelope finally realizes that Odysseus has returned.
3. Explain the significance and symbolism of the bed.