

The Odyssey by Homer (trans. by Robert Fagles)

Reading Assignments

Part I: The Travels of Telemachus

Books 1-4

Part IIA: The Wanderings: Calypso & Phaeacia

Books 5-8

Part IIB: The Wanderings: Flashback

Books 9-12

Part III: Coming Home

Books 13-16

Books 17-19

Books 20-24

Terms To Know

Background

Homer
The Iliad
Myths
Epic
Characteristics of the Epic
Characteristics of Epic Hero
Invocation
Episodic Structure
in medias res
Homeric or Heroic Simile
monomyth
Cycle of the Hero
dramatic irony
situational irony
epithet

Places

Ithaca
Ogygia
Phaeacia (Scheria)
Sparta (Lacedaemon)
Pylos
Aeaea
Ismarus

Characters

From Other Myths

Achaean
Atrides
Orestes
Agamemnon
Clytemnestra
Aegisthus

Family/Friends

Odysseus
Penelope
Telemachus
Laertes
Mentor/Mentes
Argos

Crew

Eurylochus
Elpenor

Telemachus's Travels

Nestor
Pisistratus
Menelaus
Helen
Proteus
Theoclymenus

Odysseus's Travels

Calypso
Ino
Phaeacians
Alcinous
Arete
Nausicaa
Broadsea
Demodocus
Cicones
Lotus Eaters
Aeolus
Laestrygonians
Cyclops
Polyphemus
Circe
Ajax
Achilles
Anticlea
Tiresias
Sirens
Scylla
Charybdis

Suitors

Antinous
Eurymachus
Amphinomus
Leodes

Servants

Eurycleia
Eumaeus
Philoetius
Melanthe
Melanthius

Other Ithacans

Irus
Medon
Phemius

Gods/Goddesses

Pallas Athena
Hermes
Poseidon
Helios
Zeus