

## **Summer Reading for College Bound**

For your summer reading you will be doing two things:

1. Read *The Odyssey* and answer the study guide. This will be due on the first full day of class, no exceptions. You will need to print this out before you get into class. (50 points)
2. Chose one of the novels on the “choice” list and read it. Instead of a study guide you will complete a reading log. The reading log includes a chart and two questions that you will answer about the novel. This will be turned in after the first full day of class. You will submit this to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com), and yes, I will charge you with cheating if your thoughts are word for word like someone else! For more information, please read the instructions that you will find after the study guide for *The Odyssey*. (50 points)

If you have any questions, please email me at [ecuccio@ndpios.com](mailto:ecuccio@ndpios.com).

So just to clarify – on the first full day of class you will be turning in a study guide for *The Odyssey*, you will get the [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) information that day in class and that night you will be turning in the reading log for the “choice” novel.

## Summer Reading Mythology Exploration

Before you even open your copy of *The Odyssey*, please go to [www.mythweb.com](http://www.mythweb.com) and click on the word Gods.

That will bring you to a page with a picture of the gods. Click on the woman farthest to the right (she is wearing a funny helmet and has an owl over her right shoulder) to get started.

Fill out this chart with the information found on this website. Once you click on one of the pictures the names of the gods and goddesses will show up at the top of the screen, just click around until you get everyone!

**Please note – when you come to school in August I will check this before I accept anything else from you. You MUST do this assignment or I will NOT accept any other summer reading work from you!**

Greek Name	God/Goddess of	Parents	Symbol	Known for	Married to
Athena					X
Aphrodite			X		Hephaestus
Apollo		X	X		X
Hephaestus			X		Aphrodite
Zeus			Lightning Bolt		Hera
Hermes					X
Poseidon			Trident		
Artemis			Moon		X
Hera			X		Zeus

Please refer back to this while reading *The Odyssey*!

## Odyssey Study Guide

**Characters to Know:** (You will need to identify these characters on the test)

**Alcínoüs:** The king of the Phaeácians. He feeds, shelters, and entertains Odysseus before sending him home to Ithaca.

**Antínoüs:** The most malicious of Penelope's suitors. He hatches an evil plot to kill Telémachus.

**Arété:** The Queen of the Phaeácians, wife of Alcínoüs, mother of Nausícaa. She greets Odysseus with open hospitality and takes pity on him in her home.

**Demódocus:** The blind Phaeácian bard. He sings about the Trojan War, causing Odysseus to cry.

**Elpénor:** The youngest of Odysseus' men. He falls from Círcē's roof and breaks his neck. Odysseus encounters him in Hades.

**Eumáeus:** Odysseus' loyal pig-herder. He helps Odysseus and Telémachus defeat the suitors.

**Eurycleia:** The nurse of both Odysseus and Telémachus. She discovers Odysseus' secret identity and helps him defeat the suitors.

**Eurymachus:** One of the leaders of the suitors. He throws a stool at Odysseus' head.

**Irus:** The beggar.

**Arnaeus:** He challenges Odysseus to a fight and loses.

**Calypso:** The sea nymph daughter of Atlas. She traps Odysseus on her island as her romantic companion until Zeus commands her to release him.

**Círcē:** The enchanting witch who transforms Odysseus' men into pigs.

**Laértēs:** Odysseus' father. Odysseus visits him at the end of his journey and tests him.

**Meneláus:** Son of Atreus, brother of Agamemnon, husband of Helen. He was a general in the Trojan War.

**Mentor:** Odysseus' good friend, whom he entrusts to look after Telémachus.

**Nausícaa:** The daughter of Alcínoüs and Arété. She falls in love with Odysseus after meeting him on the Phaeácians beach and guides him to her parents' home.

**Odysseus:** The son of Laértēs, husband of Penelope, and father of Telémachus. He is the central character of *The Odyssey*. who loses his way for ten years at sea while on his way home from the Trojan War.

**Penelope:** The wife of Odysseus and mother of Telémachus. She waits faithfully for twenty years for Odysseus to return home from the Trojan War, fighting off the bold advances of countless suitors.

**Polyphémus:** A Cyclops and the son of Apollo. He traps Odysseus and his sailors in his cave but is defeated by Odysseus, who pokes out his eye.

**Telémachus:** The son of Odysseus and Penelope. At Athena's suggestion, he sails in search of his father. When Odysseus returns, Telémachus assists him in defeating the suitors.

**Tiresias:** The blind seer from Thebes. Odysseus receives instructions from him in Hades.

### ***Gods***

**Hades:** The son of Cronos, brother of Zeus. He is the king of the underworld.

**Deméter:** The goddess of fertility and harvests.

**Dionysus:** The youngest of the Olympian gods, as well as the son of Zeus. He is the god of wine and dancing.

**Arēs:** The son of Zeus and Hera. He is the god of war.

**Perséphonē:** The daughter of Zeus and Deméter, wife of Hades. She is the queen of the underworld.

**Vocabulary:** (These words will help you in your reading and will also be on the test)

### ***Book I***

**wiles:** tricks.

**dicing:** gambling or throwing dice.

**marauding:** plundering or attacking.

**pensive:** consumed by thought, brooding.

### ***Book II***

**augur:** a person who sees the future, a seer, a prophet.

**stratagems:** elaborate or deceitful schemes intended to deceive.

**lout:** an awkward, stupid person.

**libations:** drink offerings in religious ceremony.

### ***Book X***

**Zephyr:** the Greek god of the west, a warm westerly wind.

**furrows:** imprint, impression, track, footprint.

**mandrake:** a plant that resembles a human figure and is often used in witchcraft.

**sheathed:** enclosed in a protective covering.

**pyre:** wood heaped for burning a dead body as a funeral rite.

**taut:** pulled or drawn tight.

**stupefied:** mentally confused, bewildered.

**guile:** the use of tricks to deceive.

### **Book III**

**lithe:** flexible, limber.

**moor:** to hold a ship in place by cables.

**unremitting:** not-stopping.

**aegis:** shield.

### **Book IV**

**vie:** compete.

**connivance:** trick, secret plan, or deceit.

**zealous:** devoted, enthusiastic.

**trident:** a spear with three prongs.

### **Book V**

**grotto:** cave-like summer house.

**citadel:** fortress, city.

**ambrosia:** the food of the gods.

**halyard:** a rope for raising and lowering a sail.

**skullduggery:** sneaky, dishonest behavior.

**tutelary:** guardian or protecting.

### **Book VI**

**suppliant:** a person who prays.

**insidiously:** craftily, slyly, subtly dangerously.

**plied:** wielded or worked with.

### **Book VII**

**palisades:** a fence made of pointed stakes.

**frieze:** a horizontal band often decorated with sculpture.

**bequeath:** to hand down by will, pass on.

**propitious:** favorable, auspicious.

### **Book VIII**

**shambling:** shuffling, walking with a slow dragging motion.

**sinewed:** fortified with muscles.

**goad:** to motivate with words, to urge, to prod.

**forge:** a workplace where metal is heated and hammered.

### **Book IX**

**combers:** long curling wave.

**promontory:** a raised geological formation, cliff, headland, or cape.

**adze:** an edge tool used to cut and shape wood.

**formidable:** extremely impressive in strength or excellence.

### **Book XIX**

**embossed:** decorated with a raised pattern.

**ogle:** to stare lustfully, gaze amorously.

**malediction:** a curse that invokes evil upon another person.

**burnished:** polished, bright, shiny.

**abominable:** detestable, awful, dreadful, displeasing.

### **Book XX**

**reverie:** daydream or imaginative thought.

**marrow:** the connective tissue inside bones.

**swink:** labor, toil, hard physical work.

**colonnade:** a structure composed of arches supported by columns.

**stalwart:** hardy, sturdy, strong, robust.

### **Book XII**

**pored:** directed one's attention to something, concentrated on something.

**wanton:** unmotivated, careless.

**gulled:** to make a fool of.

**sulfurous:** stifling, hot, oppressive.

### **Book XIII**

**thwarts:** brace that runs across a boat.

**cleaved:** separated or cut.

**consummate:** having extreme mastery or skill.

**diadem:** a jeweled headdress or crown.

### **Book XIV**

**concubine:** a woman who has a long-term extramarital affair with a man.

**pretext:** a made-up reason offered to disguise true intentions.

**squalid:** foul, run down, repulsive.

**chine:** a cut of meat including part of the backbone.

### **Book XV**

**consign:** to give over for safekeeping.

**brazen:** made of brass.

**imperious:** masterful, domineering, authoritative.

**dearth:** a small amount, an acute insufficiency.

### **Book XVI**

**fawned:** to show submission or to exhibit affection.

**incites:** to provoke, stir up, instigate, set off.

**squires:** a knight's attendants.

**leagued:** to join or work with.

### **Book XVII**

**grub:** to ask for and get free, to sponge.

**suckling:** a young mammal that has not been weaned.

**bludgeon:** to strike with a club.

**vaunts:** self-praise, boast.

### **Book XVIII**

**glib:** superficial, lacking in depth.

**befuddled:** drunk with alcohol, stupefied.

**brooches:** decorative pins worn by women.

**faggots:** a bundle of sticks tied together.

**retainer:** a person working in the service of another,

### **Book XXII**

**clattering:** a loud rattling sound of hard things struck together.

**resistless:** overpowering, unrelenting.

**fanfaronades:** groundless boasts or braggings.

**exult:** to feel extreme happiness.

### **Book XXIII**

**joyful:** rejoicing with delight.

**insolence:** a rude, disrespectful act.

**Hades:** the god of the underworld.

**winnowing:** to separate wheat from chaff.

### **Book XXIV**

### **Book XXI**

**dauntless:** brave, fearless, intrepid.

**brood:** the offspring of an animal, a group of animals.

**eminent:** distinguished, important, superior.

**brouhaha:** an uproar, hubbub, or disturbance.

**evicted:** expelled from one's home or property.

**asphodels:** a chiefly Mediterranean plant having linear leaves with white, pink, or yellow flowers.

**dirge:** a song of mourning.

**sloth:** apathy or laziness.

**lest:** for fear that.

**Questions:** (These questions help you stay on track with the plot of the story. They will be multiple choice questions on the test. You can answer them on this sheet)

### **Book I**

1. Who does Homer call upon to help him begin telling the story?
2. Why is Poseidon furious with Odysseus?
3. What advice does Athena give to Telémachus? (this saves his life)

### **Book II**

1. What is the “double-curse” of which Telémachus speaks?
2. What does Athena instruct Telémachus to do?
3. What secret does Telémachus tell Eurycleia?

### **Book III**

1. What does Athena ask for when she prays to Poseidon?
2. Which of Nestor's children accompanies Telémachus to Sparta?

### **Book IV**

1. What does Meneláus say that causes Telémachus to weep?
2. What does Helen put in the wine?
3. What does Antínoüs plan to do to Telémachus upon his return?
4. What phantom visits Penelope in her sleep?

### **Book V**

1. Whom does Zeus send to persuade Calypso to release Odysseus?
2. What does Poseidon do when he learns of Odysseus' escape?
3. What does Ino give Odysseus to help him survive the stormy seas?
4. What does Odysseus do with Ino's gift once he reaches the shore?

### **Book VI**

1. What does Nausícaa ask her parents for permission to do?
2. What reason does Nausícaa give Odysseus for not allowing him to travel with her to town?
3. What does Nausícaa instruct Odysseus to do once he reaches the palace?
4. To whom does Odysseus pray before walking to town?

### **Book VII**

1. What does Athena wrap Odysseus in to hide him from the Phaéacians?
2. In what form does Athena visit Odysseus to lead him to the palace?
3. What does Alcínoüs mistake the stranger for at first?
4. What does Alcínoüs pledge to do for the stranger?

### **Book VIII**

1. For whom does Alcínoüs send to sing at the feast?
2. What does Alcínoüs see the stranger do during the song that tips him off to his identity?
3. What excuse does the stranger give Laodamas for not participating in the games?
4. What does Odysseus ask Demódocus to do?
5. Why does Alcínoüs command Demódocus to stop?

### **Book IX**

1. What did eating the lotus flower do to Odysseus' three men?
2. What name does Odysseus give the Cyclops when he first asks?

3. What part of the Cyclops' body does Odysseus injure?
4. What fatal mistake does Odysseus make that allows the Cyclops to curse him?

### **Book X**

1. How does Odysseus' crew unleash the fury of the winds?
2. What does Círcē offer the men that turns them into pigs?
3. What does Hermes give Odysseus to help him resist Círcē's spells?

### **Book XI**

1. Where does Odysseus sail to find the entrance to Hades?
2. Who is the first dead soul to approach Odysseus in Hades?
3. Why did Odysseus' mother die?
4. How did Agamemnon die?

### **Book XII**

1. What does the crew do with Elpénor's body?
2. What does Círcē tell Odysseus to do in order to resist the Sirens?

### **Book XIII**

1. What does Odysseus do while the Phaeácian crew rows toward Ithaca?
2. Where does the Phaeácian crew hide Odysseus' presents once they reach Ithaca?
3. In what disguise does Athena visit Odysseus?
4. What does Athena do to Odysseus when she touches him with her wand?

### **Book XIV**

1. What is the pact the stranger makes with Eumáeus?
2. What item of the clothing does the stranger try to get from Eumáeus?

### **Book XV**

1. What advice does Athena give to Telémachus?
2. What treasured gift does Meneláus give to Telémachus?

### **Book XVI**

1. What does Athena instruct Odysseus he must tell Telémachus?
2. What message does Telémachus' crew send Penelope upon arrival?
3. What lie does Eurymachus tell Penelope about Telémachus?

### **Book XVII**

1. What does Argos do when he sees Odysseus?
2. What does Antínoüs throw at Odysseus?
3. Why does Penelope call for the stranger?

### **Book XVIII**

1. What is the name of the rival beggar who challenges Odysseus to a fight?
2. What does Athena do to Odysseus' limbs just before the fight?
3. With which suitor is the maid Melántho having an affair?

### **Book XIX**

1. What vision does Telémachus see that alerts him to the work of the gods?
2. What question does Penelope ask to test the stranger?
3. How does Eurycleia discover the stranger's true identity?
4. What is Penelope's dream? What does it represent?

### **Book XX**

1. For what does Telémachus wait silently, his eyes upon his father?

### **Book XXI**

1. What scheme does Athena set into the heart of Penelope?
2. With which servants does Odysseus share his true identity?
3. Where does Telémachus send Penelope? To do what?
4. What does Zeus send as an omen of the suitors' impending doom?

### **Book XXII**

1. Whom does Odysseus shoot first?

2. For what does Telémachus blame himself?
3. Why do the six suitors' shafts fail to hit Odysseus?
4. Whom do Odysseus and Telémachus spare?

### ***Book XXIII***

1. What does Penelope do when she first sees Odysseus?
2. How does Penelope test Odysseus?
3. Where did Tirésias tell Odysseus to go after slaying the suitors?
4. What gifts must Odysseus offer Poseidon once he gets there?

### ***Book XXIV***

1. According to Amphímedon, how did Penelope hoodwink the suitors?
2. What sign does Zeus (the son of Cronos) deliver that causes Odysseus to sign a peace treaty?

**Discussion Questions:** (Be prepared to discuss these questions on the first day of class. On the test you will have to answer these questions in 4-5 sentences.)

1. What kind of person is Odysseus? Support your answer with examples from the text.
2. How old would you say Telemachus is? Justify your guess.
3. Describe Athena's relationship with Odysseus.
4. Which of the people that Telemachus visits abroad is most helpful to him? Justify your answer.
5. Why does Odysseus seem so shell-shocked during Demodocus' songs?
6. What are the properties of Homer's afterlife?
7. Why does Athena allow Odysseus to be abused by the suitors?
8. Is it fair or humane to kill the twelve handmaidens?
9. How does *The Odyssey* resolve?

## “Choice” Novels for Reading Logs

Chose one of the following novels and while reading it chose quotes that you think are important in the story or something that you found interesting, funny, etc. Type it out word for word in the following table and then in the box next to it put your interpretation of the quote or why you picked it. You must have at least 20 quotes chosen, more than that will be fine. If you need more boxes in the table below then put your cursor in the last box and hit your tab key. It should make another row. Once you finish the quote table, please chose two of the questions after the chart and answer them in complete sentences. Remember, you will be submitting this to [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) so please do your own work!

*Emma* – Jane Austen

-This novel is about Emma Woodhouse, a 21 year old girl who has lived a perfect life so far and now she is going to try her hand at matchmaking. She ends up discovering a person to love in the process.

*1984* – George Orwell

-This novel is about a vision of the future where everything is controlled by the government and one person is trying to break out and become an individual.

*The Picture of Dorian Gray* – Oscar Wilde

-This novel is about a man who is painted in a portrait and then the portrait ages and decays while the person, Dorian, stays young and perfect.

*The Once and Future King* – T.H. White

-This novel is a retelling of the King Arthur legend.

*Possession* – A. S. Byatt

-This novel is part romance and part mystery about two people who start investigating an affair set back in Victorian England through letters and diaries.

*Vanity Fair* – William Thackeray

-This novel is about a women named Becky Sharp who tires to rise above her social station using her intelligence and charm.

*The Time Machine* – H.G. Wells

-A Victorian scientist builds a time machine and travels to the year 802,701. Everything he sees seems perfect but he discovers that humanity has split into two different races and both have their problems.

*The Stranger* – Albert Camus

-This novel is about a man who commits a crime and when he is put on trial we see that it isn't so much the crime that he is being prosecuted for but his nature as a human being that is on trial.

*Maus* – Art Spiegelman

-This graphic novel is about a son's journey through his father's history of the Holocaust.

*Siddhartha* – Herman Hesse

-This novel is about a young man who pushes away his comfortable future with his rich family and tries to find spiritual peace on his own.

*Thousand Splendid Suns* – Khaled Hosseini

-This novel is about two Afghan women who struggle through the wars and the unique social standards of their country.

*The Remains of the Day* – Kazuo Ishiguro

-This novel is about Stevens, a butler in England who has to deal with a changing country during and after World War II.




1. Write a statement about the impact of the setting on the story. Give two reasons that illustrate the impact of the setting on the story.
2. Name a character in the novel. Then explain some of that character's thoughts and feelings and how these led that character to act in two different instances. (Ex. Beth thought that Ben was seeing another girl; she was devastated, so she began stalking Carole, the girl she thought Ben was seeing. Later when Ben gave Beth her engagement ring, Beth thought about how embarrassed she was. She went to Carole and apologized for making her life miserable.)
3. Identify the point of view from which the novel is written. Copy two passages that illustrate point of view and tell why you think the author chose to tell the story from that point of view.
4. Interpret and critique the end of the book. Give two reasons that you believe this was or was not a believable ending or if not believable how was the ending artistically justified.
5. Name two symbols that were used in the novel and tell what each symbol represents.
6. List and explain two examples of irony that were used in the novel.
7. List and explain two examples of satire in the novel.
8. Briefly explain two conflicts that occur in the novel.
9. List two examples of foreshadowing in the novel and explain why you think the author chose to use foreshadowing in this way.