

# Lockport Township High School District 205

Garry W. Raymond, Ph.D., Superintendent  
815/588-8100



Peter M. Sullivan, Assistant Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction  
815/588-8102

Todd P. Wernet, Assistant Superintendent  
Personnel  
815/588-8103

26 May 2009

Dear Freshman Student:

The English Department of Lockport High School has instituted a Required Summer Reading Program for all incoming freshmen (class of 2013). As part of the program, you will be expected to complete the reading requirements listed below:

**Students enrolled in Literary Genres are to read one of the following:**

Anderson, Laurie Halse	<i>Fever 1793</i>
Deuker, Carl.	<i>High Heat</i>
Lawson, Ted.	<i>Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo</i>
McDonald, Joyce.	<i>Swallowing Stones</i>

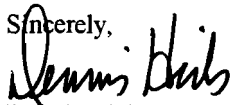
**Students enrolled in Honors Freshman English are to read both of the following:**

Homer (Rouse translation)	<i>The Odyssey</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>

These books will be available at your local public library, or they may be purchased from the Barnes and Noble or the Borders in Joliet and Orland Park. You may also obtain the novels from various online booksellers such as Amazon.com.

Please see the attached study guide to help focus your reading and increase your understanding of the book. Reviewing the questions and reflecting on the possible answers will enhance your reading experience. **Note that students in English 9R have an assignment to complete in addition to the reading.**

You will be assessed on your summer reading during the beginning of school in August. You will have to write an essay about your book and take a test on it. Consequently, your careful reading will get you off to a good start in the fall. We encourage you to read the summer assignment in manageable sections and hope that you find it enjoyable. We look forward to reading your reactions in August

Sincerely,  
  
Dennis Hicks  
Central Campus Principal

  
Thomas O'Brien  
English Department Chair

P.S. You can find this information on our school web page.

Freshman Center – Central Campus  
1222 South Jefferson Street  
Lockport, Illinois 60441-3597  
815/588-8200 Fax: 815/588-8209

District Administrative Center  
1323 East Seventh Street  
Lockport, Illinois 60441-3899  
815/588-8000 Fax: 815/588-8109

East Campus  
1333 East Seventh Street  
Lockport, Illinois 60441-3898  
815/588-8300 Fax: 815/588-8309

*A Century of Traditions Shaping the Future...*

*30 Seconds Over Tokyo* by Ted W. Lawson and Peter B. Mersky

Ted W. Lawson's classic *Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo* discusses the Doolittle Raid on Japan. "One of the worst feelings about that time," Ted W. Lawson writes, "was that there was no tangible enemy. It was like being slugged with a single punch in a dark room, and having no way of knowing where to slug back." He added, "And, too, there was a helpless, filled-up, want-to-do-something feeling that [the Japanese] weren't coming—that we'd have to go all the way over there to punch back and get even."

Lawson gives a vivid eyewitness account of the unorthodox assignment that eighty five intrepid volunteer airmen—the "Tokyo Raiders"—under the command of celebrated flier James H. Doolittle executed in April 1942. The plan called for sixteen B-25 twin-engine medium bombers of the Army Air Corps to take off from the aircraft carrier *Hornet*, bomb industrial targets in Japan, and land at airfields in China. While the raid came off flawlessly, completely surprising the enemy, a shortage of fuel caused by an early departure, bad weather, and darkness took a heavy toll of the raiders. For many, the escape from China proved a greater ordeal. Peter B. Mersky provides new information on the genesis of the raid, places it in the context of the early operations against Japan, and updates Ted Lawson's biography.

*Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson

*Fever 1793* is based on an actual epidemic of yellow fever in Philadelphia that wiped out 5,000 people--or 10 percent of the city's population--in three months. At the close of the 18th century, Philadelphia was the bustling capital of the United States, with Washington and Jefferson in residence. During the hot mosquito-infested summer of 1793, the dreaded yellow fever spread like wildfire, killing people overnight. Like specters from the Middle Ages, gravediggers drew carts through the streets crying "Bring out your dead!" The rich fled to the country, abandoning the city to looters, forsaken corpses, and frightened survivors.

In the foreground of this story is 16-year-old Mattie Cook, whose mother and grandfather own a popular coffee house on High Street. Mattie's comfortable and interesting life is shattered by the epidemic, as her mother is felled and the girl and her grandfather must flee for their lives. Later, after much hardship and terror, they return to the deserted town to find their former cook, a freed slave, working with the African Free Society, an actual group who undertook to visit and assist the sick and saved many lives. As first frost arrives and the epidemic ends, Mattie's sufferings have changed her from a willful child to a strong, capable young woman able to manage her family's business on her own.

*High Heat* by Carl Deuker

Shane Hunter's life of privilege disintegrates when his dad is arrested for money laundering and commits suicide. The teen, his mother, and his younger sister are forced to move out of their palatial home and into subsidized housing in a tough part of Seattle. Shane has a difficult time adjusting, and is eventually arrested for stealing beer from a convenience store. As part of his probation, he must help repair a local baseball diamond. There, he meets the coach of his public school's baseball team, who encourages him to try out. A crucial moment comes when Shane, a relief pitcher with a blazing fastball, faces the team from his old private school.

His anger rises to the surface, and he delivers a fastball directly at the head of Reese Robertson, the kid whose family bought Shane's house. Reese is hospitalized, and although Shane affects a lack of concern, he is so rattled that his pitching skills deteriorate. Reese, too, has lost his prowess, and the two become wary allies, dedicated to helping each other come back. Shane's inner recovery is mirrored in his gradual return to form on the mound amid a welter of blowouts, close games, and sudden reversals of fortune that propel his team into the state playoffs.

*Swallowing Stones* by Joyce McDonald

Michael MacKenzie, 17, spends a tormented summer of guilt squeezing through the interstices of lies that he and his unsavory friend, Joe, concoct to hide the fact that a shot Michael fired from a rifle killed a man working on his roof over a mile away. In alternating chapters, Michael and the dead man's 15-year-old daughter, Jenna, creep inexorably toward their inevitable confrontation.

This mesmerizing story largely derives its power from the respect McDonald demonstrates for these teens and their emotions, and her unwavering focus on their changing relationships in response to the tragedy. While on the surface the summer revolves around parties and the pool, readers are insinuated into the underlying culture that structures and controls their lives. Amy, who is scorned according to high school gossip, has compassion and gentle caring that contribute mightily to Michael's resolve to confess his culpability.

## Summer Reading Study Guide

Choose one of the four books (*30 Seconds Over Tokyo*, *Fever 1793*, *High Heat*, or *Swallowing Stones*) and answer/complete the following questions. These questions are only a part of what you can expect on your incoming freshman summer reading exam in August.

1. **Characterization:** characterization is what we learn about a character in a story based on what they say, what they do, and what the narrator or other characters say about him/her. List the five main characters from the novel you read in the space provided on the left. Then, take notes in the right hand column about what you have learned about those characters.

<b>Character's Name</b>	<b>Characterization: character traits, actions, beliefs, etc.</b>

2. **Setting:** the setting of a novel is the time and place where the story's action occurs (ex: Chicago in the 1920's, in a car during Spring, or on a farm in the 1500's). As you read your novel, take note of the time of the story, and if any time passes (a day, a season, a year, a century, etc.), and write it below. Then, in the chart provided, write five different locations where the story takes place and explain the actions that happen in each location.

a. Time the story takes place (present/past/future – be specific!):

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b. How much time passes from the beginning of the novel until the end?

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c. Complete the chart below on five different locations in the story, as well as the action that takes place in each of those locations.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Actions/Events That Occur in that Location</b>

3. Sequencing Action: Each of the summer reading novels has a main character (or 2 in the case of *Swallowing Stones*) that goes through actions, challenges, and changes. Below, list the five main events that the main character faces.

**Main Character's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

For *Swallowing Stones* Only!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Main Character's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

4. A protagonist is the main character in the story. Who is one protagonist in your story?
  
5. The antagonist is the force/person that is in conflict with the protagonist. Who or what is the antagonist in your story?
  
6. Foreshadowing is a hint or clue about future events in a story, in your summer reading novel, list three examples of foreshadowing that was used to help you predict how events in the story would unfold.
  - a.
  
  - b.
  
  - c.
  
7. Flashback is when a character reflects back on a previous event. List two examples of flashbacks from the novel you read.
  - a.
  
  - b.
  
8. Internal conflict is when a character struggles with him or herself, such as when he or she has to make a major decision. List five examples of internal conflict from your novel.
  - a.
  
  - b.
  
  - c.
  
  - d.
  
  - e.

9. An external conflict is when a main character has a struggle or person with a force outside him/herself, such as man vs. man, or man vs. nature. Write at least one of each type of external conflict in the chart provided from the novel you read.

<b>Man vs. Man</b>	
<b>Man vs. Nature</b>	
<b>Man vs. Society</b>	
<b>Man vs. Technology (science/inventions/etc.)</b>	

10. The exposition of a plot line introduces main characters, background information, and the major conflict in a story. Describe the exposition of your novel.
11. The rising action of a plot line includes events that move a story along by adding complications or further conflict. Describe the rising action for your novel.
12. The climax of a plot line is the turning point of story, and it usually occurs near the end when the reader's interest is at its highest point. What was the climax in your novel?
13. The resolution in a plot line is when the conflicts of a story are resolved and any loose ends in the story are tied up. How was your novel resolved?

14. The point of view is the voice in which a story is told. First person point of view is when the narrator is also a character in the story. Third person point of view is when the narrator is not a character in the story, but an outsider. Circle which point of view is used in your novel.

First Person

Third Person

Now, write at least one example from your story that proves which point of view the story is told from.

15. Imagery is figurative language used by an author in order to appeal to the five senses of the reader. Try to find imagery from your summer reading novel for each of the senses, and write the example in the chart below.

<b>Sight</b>	
<b>Smell</b>	
<b>Sound</b>	
<b>Taste</b>	
<b>Touch</b>	

Survey of World Literature: Honors Freshman English  
Required Summer Reading Guide

***The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*, by William Shakespeare**

**DIRECTIONS:** Answer the following questions to further your understanding of the play.

**ACT I**

1. In scene 1, the Prince appears, and he is angry. Why is he angry, and what is the promise and threat he makes?
2. In scene 1, Romeo enters and tells Benvolio the problem. What is his problem?
3. In scene 2, after speaking briefly, Paris gets to the point of his visit to the Capulets. What does he ask of Lord Capulet? What is Capulet's response?
4. In scene 2, Romeo, lamenting his unrequited love, is approached by an illiterate servingman. In reading his list he finds that Rosaline, his love, is going to attend the Capulet party. What suggestion does Benvolio make?
5. In scene 3, what does Lady Capulet tell Juliet? What is Juliet's response?
6. In scene 4, Romeo is apprehensive about going to the masquerade because of the dream he had the night before. Romeo seems to believe (as did many in Shakespeare's day) that dreams have something to do with life. Perhaps Romeo believes dreams act as omens. What is Mercutio's opinion of dreams? What does Mercutio's speech reveal about his character?
7. In scene 5, what is Tybalt's reaction when he hears Romeo's voice? What does Lord Capulet say to Tybalt in reference to Romeo's attendance at the party? Tybalt obeys his uncle, but what does he foresee?
8. In scene 5, Romeo, approaching Juliet, begins a conversation and ends up kissing her twice before the Nurse comes to tell Juliet that her mother requests her. Romeo and his friends leave. How does the audience know that Juliet feels as strongly about Romeo as he does for her?

**ACT II**

9. In scene 1, Romeo slips away from his friends; the practical, vulgar Mercutio makes some indecent comments about Rosaline. What misapprehension are Mercutio and Benvolio under? What truth does the audience know?
10. At the end of scene 2, what decision does Romeo make?
11. In scene 3, why does the Friar agree to help Romeo and Juliet get married?
12. In scene 4, the Nurse expresses certain doubts about Romeo. What are these doubts and how does Romeo respond? What is the message that Romeo gives to the Nurse for Juliet?
13. At the end of scene 6, what follows after Romeo, Juliet, and Friar Laurence exit from the stage?

**ACT III**

14. In scene 1, in what way is Romeo responsible for Mercutio being stabbed? What is Romeo's reaction to Mercutio's death? What is Romeo willing to sacrifice for Mercutio?
15. In scene 1, Romeo says, "O, I am fortune's fool!" What does he mean by this?
16. In scene 1, what is the Prince's decision?
17. In scene 2, as Juliet waits for night and Romeo's visit, the Nurse arrives with news. What is the news, and how is it presented?
18. In scene 3, what does the Friar tell Romeo to do? What instructions does the Friar give Romeo?
19. In scene 4, what decision does Lord Capulet make, and why do you suppose he makes this decision?
20. In scene 5, what news does Juliet's mother bring? What is Juliet's response to her mother? Why does Lord Capulet get so angry when he hears of Juliet's desire not to marry? What does Lord Capulet threaten if Juliet chooses not to marry Paris?
21. In scene 5, Juliet tells the Nurse she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sins. Why is she really going there?

#### ACT IV

22. In scene 1, what does Juliet tell the Friar? What plan does the Friar set out?
23. In scene 2, why is Lord Capulet happy?
24. In scene 3, if the potion does not work, what is Juliet's plan?
25. In scene 5, how do Lord and Lady Capulet react to the news of Juliet's death? How does the Friar try to comfort the grieving parents?

#### ACT V

26. In scene 1, the Friar is supposed to send a messenger to Romeo informing him of the plan and Juliet's fake death. Who arrives in Mantua instead, and what news does he give Romeo? What is Romeo's plan?
27. In scene 2, why is Friar John not able to go to Mantua and deliver Friar Laurence's message to Romeo? What revision does Friar Laurence make in his plan?
28. In scene 3, what does Romeo give to Balthasar? What does Romeo tell Balthasar to do? Why does Balthasar choose not to do it?
29. In scene 3, why do Paris and Romeo fight, since Romeo really has no wish to fight anyone?
30. In scene 3, with Romeo and Paris dead, Juliet wakes. How does the Friar hope to resolve this mess? When Juliet refuses to leave the monument, what does the Friar do? What does Juliet do?

# ***The Odyssey* Summer Study Guide**

## **for Honors Freshman English: Survey of World Literature**

NOTE: All references come from *The Odyssey: The Story of Odysseus* translated by W.H.D. Rouse. Minor differences may occur among the many translations, especially regarding the spelling of names

### **Section One: List of gods, goddesses, and people**

Actoris - Penelopeia's maid

Agamemnon - one of the men who goes with Odysseus to fight the Trojan war; killed by Aigisthos so he can marry his wife; father of Orestes

Agelaos Damastorides - the suitor who accuses Telemachos of delaying his mother's marriage

Aigisthos - kills Agamemnon when he returns from the war

Aiolos Hippotades - god of the winds

Alcinoös - king of Scheria and father of Nausicaä, the princess who finds Odysseus on the beach

Alpheios - the river god

Amphinomos - one of the suitors who is a good man but is fated to die

Anticleia - Odysseus' mother's soul

Antinoös - one of the men trying to marry Penelopeia, leader of the pretenders

Arete - wife of the King Alcinoös, mother of Princess Nausicaä, who meets Odysseus on the beach

Argos - Odysseus' hound

Athena - also known as "Brighteyes;" goddess of arts and wisdom; sometimes called "Pallas Athena"

Autoloycos - Odysseus' grandfather who is with him when Odysseus gets the scar from the boar

Broadsea - a wrestling champion who tries to make Odysseus participate in the sport

Calypso - mischievous daughter of Atlas who holds Odysseus captive on her island

Circe - goddess with lovely hair who turns men into pigs

Ctesippos - a suitor who throws a cow's foot at Odysseus

Cyclops - also known as "Goggle-eye;" a monster with one eye; the son of Poseidon

Demodocos - a blind minstrel with a gift for singing

Dymas - a friend of Nausicaä whose form Athena uses to talk to Nausicaä

Eidothea - daughter of the Old Man in the Sea, Proteus

Elpenor - member of Odysseus' crew who dies falling from a roof

Eumaios - Odysseus' swineherd, charged with protecting most of his wealth

Eupeithes - Antinoös' father

Eurycleia - faithful servant who raises Telemachos and loves him like a son

Eurylochos - a member of Odysseus' crew who speaks for the men when they want to land on Helios

Eurymachos - one of the men trying to marry Penelopeia

Hades - the home of the dead, located beneath the Earth

Halitherses Mastorides - man who can interpret the knowledge of birds and omens

Helen - the woman who is the reason for the invasion of Troy; the wife of Menelaos

Hermes (also called Argeiphontes) - Zeus' messenger sent to tell Calypso that she must free Odysseus

Hyperion - the Sun god; Odysseus' men ate his cattle, and he made sure they never saw home again.

Ino - White Sea Goddess; she helps Odysseus survive the storm

Iphthime - a woman whose shape Athena uses to make phantom visits to the sleeping Penelopeia

Iros - the town beggar who fights Odysseus

Laertes - Odysseus' father

Medon - the marshal, loyal to Penelopeia

Melanthios Dolios - a goat herder who is a disloyal servant of Odysseus

Melantho - Penelopeia's maid, disloyal to both her and Odysseus

Menelaos - ruler of Lacedaimon who has recently returned from abroad; Helen's husband

Mentes - Athena disguised as a family friend

Mentor - friend of Odysseus entrusted with his house when he is away; Athena disguises herself as Mentor

Nausicaä – tall, beautiful girl who rescues Odysseus from the beach

Nestor - the old cavalier, King of Neleus, the main city in Pylos

Noemon - a suitor at Odysseus' house who lends Telemachos a boat

Oceanos - the world's boundary

Orestes - Agamemnon's son; kills his father's murderer Aigisthos

Peiraios - a member of Telemachos' crew who takes Theoclymenos to his home

Peisistratos - Nestor's son who guides Telemachos to Menelaos; a lancer and leader of men

Penelopeia- Odysseus' wife and Telemachos' mother; wise, faithful, and beautiful.

Philoitios - a cattle herder who is loyal to Odysseus

Poseidon - god of the sea; he held a grudge against Odysseus because Odysseus blinded his son, Polyhemus, the Cyclops

Proteus - the old Man of the Sea

Queen Clytaimnestra - wife of Agamemnon; mother of Orestes

Styx - river encircling Hades; the boundary between living and dead

Telemachos - Odysseus' son, handsome and loyal to his father; often described as looking like a young god

Theban Teiresias - the soul of the blind seer Odysseus visits see

Theoclymenos - a prophet who travels with Telemachos back to Ithaca

Zeus the Olympian (also Cronides our Father, King of Kings and Lord of Lords) - god of gods and men

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## Section Two: Plot & Character Questions

NOTE: The following questions should be used as a guide for reading. Answering these questions while you read this summer is optional and the written out answers will not be required by your teacher in the fall.

### **BOOK I - What Went On in the House of Odysseus**

- Where is Odysseus at the beginning of the story? What has happened to the men who helped him sack Troy?
- Why do you think Athena decides it is a good time to solicit Zeus' help in freeing Odysseus from the island?
- Athena gives Telemachos one piece of information about his father. What is it?

### **BOOK II - How the Council Met in the Market-place of Ithaca; and What Came of It**

- Why does Telemachos call the men to assembly?
- How has Penelope managed to hold off the suitors' demands for the past four years?
- What does Telemachos plan to do now?

### **BOOK III - What Happened in Sandy Pylos**

- Why does Nestor tell Telemachos the story of Orestes?

### **BOOK IV - What Happened in Lacedaimon**

- According to Menelaus' informant, where was Odysseus?
- The scene shifts to the home of Odysseus. What plan do the suitors devise against Telemachos?
- How does Penelopeia learn that her son is on a voyage and that there is a plot to murder him when he returns?
- What does Athena do to ease Penelopeia's worries about her son's safety?

### **BOOK V - Hermes is Sent to Calypso's Island; Odysseus Makes a Raft and is Carried to the Coast of Scheria**

- What is Zeus' command to Calypso?
- What does the Earthshaker (Poseidon) do to Odysseus? How do Ino and Athena help him?

### **BOOK VI - How Odysseus Appealed to Nausicaä, and She Brought Him to Her Father's House**

- Who is Nausicaa and why was she at the river in the first place?

### **BOOK VII - What Happened to Odysseus in the Palace of Alcinoös**

- How does Odysseus respond to King Alcinoös when the King suggests he marry his daughter and stay in Scheria?

### **BOOK VIII - How They Held Games and Sports in Phaiacia**

- After the athletic games and dinner are over, what does King Alcinoos ask Odysseus to tell them?

### **BOOK IX - How Odysseus Visited the Lotus-eaters and the Cyclops**

- In Books IX through XII Homer provides us with a flashback to supply background information. As you read books IX-XII, list the places that Odysseus says he has traveled prior to Phaiacia.
- Why can't Odysseus get his men to board the ship and leave the land of the Lotus-eaters?
- How does Odysseus trick the Cyclops Polyphemus in order to get the men off his island?

### **BOOK X - The Island of the Winds; the Land of the Midnight Sun; Circe**

- Although Aeolus gives Odysseus a bag of wind to help him successfully sail away, something causes Odysseus and his men to return. What changes their course once they have Ithaca in their sights? Also, why won't Aeolus help them a second time when they return to the Island of the Winds?

- How does the giant try to sink Odysseus' ships as they try to leave the Land of the Midnight Sun? What is the outcome?
- What does Circe do to Odysseus and his men while they are trapped on the island Aea? How does Hermes try to help Odysseus?
- Why must Odysseus visit the house of Hades?

### **BOOK XI – How Odysseus Visited the Kingdom of the Dead**

- When Odysseus reaches the city of Cimmerian and the place on the shore that Circe has described he digs a pit, pours in milk and honey, then wine, then water, then sprinkles barley meal over it. Then he makes animal sacrifices and allows the blood to spill into the pit. What results from these actions?
- Considering that Odysseus' former crewman, Elpenor, died and was not properly buried, what does he make Odysseus promise to do?
- The prophet Teiresias assures Odysseus that after a very long journey he will finally do what?
- What are some things that Teiresias and the soul of his mother are able to tell Odysseus about Ithaca since he has been gone?
- Many heroes speak to Odysseus, and he learns of their fates. What happens to Tantalos?
- What punishment is Sisyphos enduring?

### **BOOK XII – The Singing Sirens; the Terrors of Scylla and Charybdis**

- What happens to men who are bewitched by the singing of the Sirens? What are Odysseus' men supposed to do so that they can all avoid the Sirens' powers?
- After Circe advises Odysseus how to avoid the six-headed monster, the Scylla and the whirlpool Charybdis, she dislikes Odysseus' suggestion of a different course by saying, "You hot-head! Fighting and asking for trouble is all you care about...flight is better than fight!" What did Odysseus suggest as an alternative to Circe's travel plans?
- Although Odysseus tells his men that both Teiresias and Circe forbade them to land of the island of Helios, Eurylochos convinced him otherwise. Why does Eurylochos want Odysseus to stop on this island?
- Odysseus sides with Eurylochos, yet he has apparently made a decision which upsets Helios and Zeus. What does Zeus do to Odysseus' ship as a punishment?

### **BOOK XIII- How Odysseus Came to Ithaca**

- How does Poseidon react when he discovers that the Phaiakians have aided Odysseus in reaching Ithaca?
- Why doesn't Odysseus know where he is when he first awakens?
- Who is the first person that Athena instructs Odysseus to visit? Why?

### **BOOK XIV – Odysseus and the Swineherd**

- Odysseus briefly disguises himself as beggar from Crete in this section. Why does Odysseus hide his identity from his former servant Eumaios?
- In what ways does Eumaios impress Odysseus?

### **BOOK XV - How Telemachos Sailed Back to Ithaca**

- Telemachos receives an omen as he is about to depart. What is it, and what does Helen tell him that it means?
- Why does Theoclymenos want to accompany Telemachos and his companions?
- How does Eumaios react when Odysseus, still disguised as a beggar, tells him that he wants to go visit Odysseus' wife?
- How does Odysseus react to Eumaios's story of his past?

### **BOOK XVI – How Telemachos Met His Father**

- When Telemachos first sees his father, who does he think he is seeing?
- Once Odysseus' identity is revealed, Telemachos is skeptical. As soon as he realizes that he is seeing his father, Telemachos plans to assist Odysseus in his plot to kill the suitors. How will they carry out this plan?

### **BOOK XVII – How Odysseus Returned Home**

- Upon Telemachos return he hides from his mother the fact that he has seen his father, but what information does he tell her about Odysseus?
- When the disguised Odysseus arrives at the palace, one suitor in particular is cruel to him. Who is it and what does he do to Odysseus?
- Why does Penelope ask to see the beggar?

### **BOOK XVIII – How Odysseus Fought the Sturdy Beggar**

- How does Odysseus again demonstrate his intelligence before he agrees to fight Arnaïos, the beggar?
- Why does Odysseus hold back and not kill Arnaïos with one blow?
- What does Penelope do to the suitors that makes Odysseus happy?
- What does Eurymachos do that makes Odysseus angry?

### **BOOK XIX – How the Old Nurse Knew Her Master**

- What does Odysseus hope to find out in his conversation with Penelope?
- How does his old nurse Eurycleia, also referred to as Nanny, recognize Odysseus while washing his feet?
- How does Odysseus interpret Penelope's dream?

### **BOOK XX – How God Sent Omens of the Wrath to Come**

- Why are Odysseus and Penelopeia unable to sleep?
- How are the suitors' plot to kill Telemachos and the latest omen connected?
- What does Theoclymenus notice about the room and atmosphere that the other suitors do not?

### **BOOK XXI - The Contest with the Great Bow**

- Why will there be a contest with a great bow? How does Penelope's choice of contest lead the reader to infer that maybe she knows that the beggar is Odysseus?
- What does Odysseus ask Eurycleia to close the doors?
- What is the meaning of the thunderclap from Zeus that is heard when Odysseus strings the bow?

### **BOOK XXII- The Battle in the Hall**

- What does Odysseus do to reveal his true identity to the suitors?
- Who is on Odysseus' side during the battle with the suitors? Whose lives are spared?
- What happens to the disloyal female servants?

### **BOOK XXIII –How Odysseus Found His Wife Again**

- Eurycleia excitedly tells Penelope that Odysseus is the beggar and that he has killed many of the suitors. An upset Penelope sends Eurycleia and Telemachos away so she can test Odysseus. How is her suggestion to move the bed a test for Odysseus?
- What does Odysseus mean when he says “dear wife, we have not yet reached the end of our labours”?

### **BOOK XXIV - How Odysseus Found His Old Father and How the Story Ended**

- How does Odysseus reveal himself to his father?
- How do Medon, the marshal, and Halitherses, the man who interprets the future through birds, persuade half of the people not to avenge the deaths of the men who wanted to marry Penelopeia ?
- Why does Athena intervene to stop the battle, even though Odysseus and Telemachos are winning?
- List the ways each of the following men have died or will die: Achilles, Agamemnon , Amphimedon, Odysseus.