

### *The Odyssey* Socratic Seminar Make-up

This make-up assignment is for excused absences on Aspire only. If you have an unexcused absence, you will not be able to get credit for the Socratic Seminar. Because you missed our class discussion of the book, you will need to write responses to questions that were asked.

- For full credit, you need answer **at least eight of the fifteen questions**. Your responses each should be **full paragraphs of around 6-8 sentences each**.
- You should have clear **claims** that answer the question and you should **give and explain textual evidence** to prove that your claim is correct.
- At least **three** of your seven answers must **give and cite quotes** as your textual evidence.

Question Options (these were questions that were actually asked by students during the Socratic Seminars this year):

1. Compared to the other Greek heroes we learned about during *Mythology*, is Odysseus more or less heroic? Explain your reasoning.
2. What do you think was the most important heroic trait to the ancient Greeks?
3. Why do you think Homer told some of the story in a flashback?
4. What were the standards of loyalty in ancient Greece and how do those standards compare to today?
5. Do humans in the story control their lives or are they completely at the mercy of the gods? Explain your reasoning.
6. According to *The Odyssey*, what were the roles men and women were meant to play in society?
7. Why do you think Athena helped Odysseus out so much? Explain your reasoning.
8. Would you consider Odysseus a hero? Why or why not?
9. What do you think was Odysseus' "Belly of the Whale"? Explain your reasoning.
10. Are there any ways Odysseus reminds you of yourself? Explain.
11. What is a message or theme that Homer was trying to convey to his audience? Explain your reasoning.
12. Is Odysseus a good strategist or a bad strategist? Explain your reasoning.
13. What do you think Odysseus' greatest weakness was? Explain your reasoning.
14. Do you think Penelope actually loves Odysseus or is she holding off the suitors and mourning her loss of Odysseus because she feels obligated to do so? Explain your reasoning.
15. In what ways are Odysseus and Penelope similar to one another? Explain your reasoning.