



THE

ODYSSEY

Guided Reading Questions for Book 9- The Cyclops

- 1. Describe the cyclops: what does he look like; what is his favorite food; where does he live; what does he do for a living?**
- 2. How does Polyphemus lure the sailors into the cave?**
- 3. Explain two ways that Ulysses tricks Polyphemus.**
- 4. What happens after Polyphemus falls asleep? How do the men get out of the cave?**
- 5. Why don't the other cyclops help Polyphemus?**
- 6. What mistake does Ulysses make after he is back in the boat?**
- 7. Who does Polyphemus ask to punish Ulysses?**
- 8. Does Ulysses display any epic hero qualities in this chapter?**

Aeolus-God of the Winds



Guided Reading Questions for Book 10- The Bag of Winds and the Witch Circe

- 1. What is the name of the island where the men next land?**
- 2. Who is Aeolus, and what does he do?**
- 3. What do the sailors do to the bag of winds? What happens?**
- 4. Who are the Laestrygonians, and what do they do?**
- 5. Where do the men land next, and who lives there?**
- 6. Who leads the party of 22 men to explore the island?**
- 7. What creatures surround Circe?**
- 8. What was the goddess Circe doing when the men found her?**
- 9. Who is Polites?**
- 10. Which man does not go inside Circe's home? Why?**
- 11. What did Circe add to the men's drinks?**
- 12. What happened to the men?**
- 13. What does Hermes give Odysseus?**
- 14. What does Circe persuade Odysseus to do?**
- 15. For how long does Odysseus stay with Circe?**
- 16. Where do Odysseus and the men have to go before heading home?**
- 17. Who will share a prophecy with Odysseus?**

Guided Reading Questions for Book 11- The Underworld

1. Where does Odysseus go next?
2. Who is the blind prophet?
3. What does Odysseus sacrifice to the dead?
4. What does Odysseus sacrifice to Teiresias?
5. Who were some of the dead?
6. According to Teiresias, who will cause Odysseus trouble? Why?
7. What will Odysseus find on Thrinakia?
8. If Odysseus's crew eats the cows, what will happen to them and their ship?
9. How many survivors will remain? (lines 1116-7).
10. What does Teiresias say Odysseus will find when he returns home?
11. After Odysseus returns home and kills the suitors, to whom should he make sacrifice?
12. Whose ghost does Odysseus see?
13. What is Odysseus's mother's name?
14. How did she die?
15. What did Odysseus try to do to his mother three times but fail?
16. Who does Odysseus accuse of making his mother appear as a hallucination?
17. What are the people's "bodies" like in the Underworld?
18. After the Land of the Dead, where does Odysseus go?

Journal #26

When Odysseus goes to The Underworld, he meets one of his men who died as well as his mother. He speaks with her and is distraught that she has died of grief waiting for him to return to Ithaca. He speaks to all of these shades and becomes quite overwhelmed and escapes on his ship. Thinking about all of the people who died of grief waiting for their husbands to return home, it becomes quite overwhelming with emotions. Is there a time in your life where you were so overwhelmed with emotions that you just ran away from your problems? How was your situation different than that of Odysseus? How did the grief affect you? *One whole page.*

Guided Reading Questions for Book 12- The Sirens, Scylla and Charybdis

1. What is the first danger about which Circe warns Odysseus?
2. Describe the Sirens.
3. What will happen to Odysseus if he hears the sirens sing?
4. What does Circe tell Odysseus to do to the men's ears?
5. If Odysseus wants to listen to the sirens, what can he do?
6. What is the second danger?
7. Describe Scylla.
8. How many men does Scylla eat from passing ships?
9. What is the third danger.
10. What does Charybdis do three times?
11. What advice does Circe offer?
12. After going past Scylla, where will they go? What is on this island?
13. If Odysseus's crew eats the beeves (cattle), what will happen?
14. What does Odysseus not reveal to his crew?
15. What does Odysseus ask his men to do to him so he can hear the sirens?
16. What does Odysseus put in the men's ears?
17. Who sang to Odysseus's ship?
18. What did Odysseus cry out to his men when he heard the sirens sing?
19. What did the men do when they heard a strange sound?
20. What did Odysseus tell the men as they went toward Scylla? Why?
21. What was Odysseus looking for?
22. What does Charybdis do?
23. What do the men see after Charybdis swallows water?
24. How many men does Scylla eat?
25. Where is the last place the men land?
26. What do the men eat that belongs to Helios?
27. Who punishes the men? How?
28. Where does Odysseus go (which is where we met him in Book 5)?