

## *The Odyssey* Notes and Homeric Logs

As we read Homer’s *The Odyssey*, we’ll need to keep track of how this classic tale demonstrates the common-sense argument that stories have the capacity to shape human life. To help us organize our evidence, we will record the Greek concepts that shaped how ancient Greeks thought and acted in the world, as demonstrated in the text.

So while reading, always be on the lookout for answers to our central question.

“How do the descriptions, details, and plot of *The Odyssey* reveal Greek culture and shape how human beings live in the world?”

Your work will be recorded two ways...

### Odyssey Notes

First, as you read, you will record evidence of classical Greek values in your notes as you discover them, chronologically in the text. Be prepared to turn in your *Odyssey* Notes as an assignment, and you do *not* have to type this, as we will be working on it in class. Your notes should look like this:

Concept	Quotation	Paraphrase and Analysis	Page #(s)	Book and Line #(s)
This column refers to one of the seven Greek concepts we’ve discussed. Write the name here.	This column asks you to record the <i>exact</i> phrase or sentence that you believe demonstrates the concept on the left.	This column asks you to give a short summary of the plot or demonstration of the virtue/concept instead of quoting the text. Use your own words, and be sure to tell exactly <i>how</i> it demonstrates the concept.	You’ll need to cite the page number you found the evidence.	Also cite the book number from the <i>Odyssey</i> and line numbers of the quotation.
<i>areté</i>	“All hands aboard;/ come, clear the beach and no one taste/ the Lotus, or you lose your hope of home.”	In this quotation, Odysseus and his crew are in the land of the Lotus Eaters. One taste of the Lotus flower makes a person lazy, tired, and apathetic: he gives up his will to do anything, including, in this case, continue his voyage home. Odysseus demonstrates <i>areté</i> of leadership by successfully saving his men, commanding them back onto the ship, where they row their way to safety.	373	Book 9 Lines 50-52
“”	“”	“”	“”	“”

Here's a handy reference of the concepts on which your work will focus.

*philos* (fee-los) – the love and loyalty experienced between close friends

*polytropos* – “many faces” and “much traveled;” the word refers to a person who can draw from many experiences to approach problems from a variety of angles

*time* (tee-may) – the honors that come from an act of excellence

*areté* (air-e-tay) – excellence (of any kind)

*xeinos* (zay-nos) – the obligation of a host to care for a guest as well as the duty of the guest to be respectful toward the host.

*metis* (mi-tis) – the wisdom shown through acts of skill and cunning

*techné* (tek-nay) – the knowledge of how to do something

## The Homeric Log

The second way we will keep track of these concepts will be by presenting them in an illustrated **Homeric Log**. The log will present your two best examples of each concept, along with the textual evidence you would have already recorded in your notes. This log will take the form of a booklet, and I have a sample I will share with you in class.

To make a *simple, basic Homeric Log*, you'll need four pieces of legal-sized paper, a stapler, a pen, and either crayons or colored pencils. Fold the paper in half, and staple it down the spine. When you fold it, make sure the smooth edge of the staple faces the outside. Title the book and give it an illustration. Be sure to write your name and period number on the text.

When you open the book, you will have 14 pages available to work: that's two pages per concept. On the first two pages, give the name of the first concept you will illustrate as well as its definition. For each of these two examples, you will copy the quotations and cite them appropriately with its book number and line numbers. Next, give the analysis for each. Remember, you have already done this work in your notes, so the difficult part of the work will be selecting your strongest examples.

Finally, on each page, illustrate the moment from the text you have decided to analyze. All artwork should demonstrate *maximum effort* and should be suitable to hang in a museum. That's right. I want to see your very best! For this reason, I urge you to move beyond “simple” and “basic” and give me “extraordinary” and “jaw-dropping.” You do not *need* to use simple legal-sized white paper. You may choose to create short scrapbook, use textured or age-stained paper, or illustrate your artwork in a medium other than crayon or colored pencil. You may *not* however, just find images online and print them out. I want to see *your* artwork, not something you just find online. Remember: maximum effort! Demonstrate your own artistic *areté*. You could use collage, mosaic, are a variety of other ways to illustrate the text, but be careful that your effort doesn't bleed through the paper and destroy the image on the other side. Be creative and enjoy the process of making art. It's one of the things that *some* common-sensers believe makes human beings special.

### Odyssey Notes (50 points)

Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Beginning	Unsatisfactory
<p>The format is followed exactly. The <i>entire</i> text has clearly and conscientiously been read and analyzed. Each column is complete, and the analysis of particularly effective and insightful. Key terms are used effectively. The work is organized, clean, and legible.</p> <p>In addition to demonstrating proficiency, your work is so effective that someone reading them could clearly, accurately, and insightfully reconstruct the text.</p>	<p>The format is followed exactly. The text has clearly and conscientiously been read and analyzed. Each column is complete, and the analysis of particularly effective. Key terms are used. The work is organized, clean, and legible.</p> <p>In addition to demonstrating proficiency, your work is so effective that someone reading them could accurately reconstruct the text.</p>	<p>The format is followed exactly. Most of the text has clearly been read and there was some effort to analyze the meaning of events. Each column is complete, and the analysis sometimes effective. Key terms are used. The work is organized, clean, and legible.</p> <p>Someone reading your notes may experience some difficulty in accurately reconstruct the text.</p>	<p>The format is followed exactly. Most of the text has clearly been read, although this demonstrates less effort to be complete than those earning an evaluation of “developing.” There was some effort to analyze the meaning of events, although the analysis is poor, thin, or underdeveloped. Although each column is complete, the analysis is not often effective. Key terms may not be used leading to poor connection to the task. The work is organized, clean, yet may not be entirely legible.</p> <p>Someone reading your notes will experience difficulty in accurately reconstruct the text.</p>	<p>The format is not followed exactly. There are significant parts of the text missing or ignored in these notes. The analysis demonstrates is either missing or demonstrates unsatisfactory effort and/or success in meeting the objective.</p> <p>There was little to no effort placed on analyzing the meaning of events.</p> <p>Information may be missing entirely or inaccurate.</p> <p>Key terms are ignored or used incorrectly.</p> <p>Part or all of the work is disorganized, sloppy, or illegible.</p> <p>Someone reading your notes cannot reconstruct the text.</p>

### Homeric Logs (75 points)

Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Beginning	Unsatisfactory
<p>The format is followed exactly, and all required information is present.</p> <p>The effort and success of the artwork moves beyond the simple, basic requirements, and it needs to be shipped immediately to a museum for display for a special gallery fee.</p>	<p>The format is followed exactly, and all required information is present.</p> <p>The effort and success of the artwork demonstrates less of a creative risk than those earning an “excellent,” but there is a clear and successful effort to move past the “simple, basic” requirements. A museum should still display the work, but there’s no need to charge.</p>	<p>The format is followed exactly, and all required information is present.</p> <p>The effort and success of the artwork demonstrates that the “simple, basic” requirements were met, but there was little effort to move beyond them.</p> <p>Museums have plenty of samples like this, so there’s little chance those earning an evaluation of “developing” need to be shipped anywhere.</p>	<p>The format is followed, and all required information is present.</p> <p>The effort and success of the artwork demonstrates that the “simple, basic” requirements were met, but even less successfully than those earning an evaluation of “developing.” There was little effort to create a piece of art that fulfilled the task.</p> <p>Museums don’t need this sample, but a loving grandparent or kindly old English teacher might hang it up.</p>	<p>The format is not consistently followed, and some required information may not be present.</p> <p>The effort and success of the artwork demonstrates little willingness to move beyond the “simple, basic” requirements.</p> <p>There was little to no effort to successfully meet the objectives of the project.</p>

