

Odyssey Homework Packet: Books 9-10

Directions: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the Odyssey, answer the following questions using complete sentences and quotations when you can.

1. How does Odysseus introduce himself to the Phaeacians?
2. Describe how Odysseus rescued his men from the Lotus Eaters.
3. What kind of social life do the Cyclopes have?
4. Why did Odysseus ignore the crew's suggestion?
5. What will be Polyphemus's gift to Odysseus?
6. Explain why Polyphemus's brothers did not help him.
7. What was Odysseus reasoning as he called out to Polyphemus that he, Odysseus, was the one who put out his eye?
8. Why did Aeolus let the West Wind out?
9. Why did the ships go back to Aeolia?
10. What kind of *xenia* (hospitality) do Odysseus's men encounter among the Laestrygonians?
11. How does Hermes help Odysseus?
12. What does Odysseus's response to Circe's invitation say about the power of an oath?
13. Why does Odysseus briefly consider killing his own friend and kinsman Eurylochus, and what does this say about Odysseus's character?
14. Where does Circe tell Odysseus he must go before heading home?