

Preparing for the *Odyssey* Exam

1. Grading

This exam will count as 8 quizzes.

2. Testing style

The exam will consist of matching, multiple choice, and short answer questions that deal with the content of *The Odyssey* and any of the information that I gave in class regarding the epic (its meter, historical background, etc.) The more minute the detail, the more likely it will NOT be a short answer question.

3. How to Review

The best way to review for the test:

- Study class notes; find a study partner if you did not take good notes!
- Review the quizzes.
- Re-read selections of the *Odyssey*.
- Study the maps in the book.
- Review this study guide (Although the test may contain things not included on this guide.)

4. Suggested study topics:

- The characters and people in the *Odyssey* (found in the glossary of the book): Odysseus, Laertes, Telemachus, Penelope, Eumaeus, Philoetius, Eurycleia, Nestor, Menelaus, Agamemnon, Helen, Clytemnestra, Cassandra, Mentor, Orestes, Tiresias, Antinous, Melanthius, Eurymachus, Alcinous, Arete, Nausicaa, Atreus, Athena, Poseidon, Hermes, Apollo, Polyphemus, Circe, Charybdis, Sirens, Calypso, Proteus, Eidothea, the Phaeacians, etc.
- Places, their location (if given) and significance (found in the glossary of the book): Ithaca, Aeolia, the Land of the Lotus Eaters, Laestrygonia, Lacedaemon, Ogygia, Sparta, Pylos, Same, etc.
- Plot and basic content of the epic.
- Lecture notes: Homer, Heinrich Schlieman and the history of the *Odyssey*, poetics of the *Odyssey*, the “epithets” in epics and their purpose, poems inspired by the *Odyssey* (Tennyson), ethos revealed in *Odyssey* (rites of hospitality, etc.), homeric simile, dramatic irony.