



# Odyssey Webquest

*Created by Mr. Davidson (University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy)*

**Purpose:** Building background knowledge is one of the keys to reading comprehension. When you have more knowledge to make connections to while you read, you are more likely to understand and remember that information you have read. This activity will help with this.

**Directions:** Go to the website [odyssey-webquest.weebly.com](http://odyssey-webquest.weebly.com) to access all of the resources necessary for this activity. On your handout, please write all of the answers in complete sentences. You will need to explore several different websites to find all of the information. You do not need to copy down every last fact, but you should demonstrate a basic understanding of the material.

## **Part One: Who is Homer?**

1. Who was Homer?
2. When and where was he born?
3. What was Homer like?
4. What two major works are attributed to Homer?

## **Part Two: Terms and Conventions**

*Define the following...*

5. Epic
6. Epic hero

7. Epithets

**Part Three: Ancient Greece**

*Answer the following questions based on the links specifically for those sections.*

8. Map of Ancient Greece: What three seas surround Greece?
  
9. Ancient Greece>Culture & Society>Ancient Greek Theater: Which god's festival was the cause for developing dramatic performances?
  
10. Ancient Greece>Culture & Society>Ancient Greek Theater: Where does the word theater come from? What did theaters look like at the time?
  
11. Ancient Greece>Olympics: What athletic events were included in ancient pentathlons?
  
12. Ancient Greece>Olympics: What was the crowning prize for a winning athlete?
  
13. Ancient Greece>People: Pick ONE person (playwright, philosopher, leader, historian, sculptor or mathematician) and give some fun facts about that individual.
  
14. Ancient Greek Wars: Who was a warrior in Greece? How did training in Sparta compare to other city-states? When did Spartan boys start training?
  
15. Google Search: What are the four cities in Michigan whose names have Greek roots?

**Part Four: Themes**

16. Create a list of topics from this website to keep in mind while you read...

**Part Five: Encyclopedia Mythica**

*Define the following terms... (If you cannot find a term in the encyclopedia, then Google it.)*

17. Aeolus

18. Athena

19. Poseidon

20. Zeus

21. Laertes

22. Odysseus

23. Penelope

24. Telemachus

25. Tiresias

26. Calypso

27. Charybdis

28. Circe

29. Cyclops

30. Muses

31. Scylla

32. Sirens