

English 9
Odyssey, Book 2

Spend the allotted time on your own preparing 3 of these questions on your own paper. You may answer in the form of notes, which should be understandable to a reader, and you should include textual references. (Give the gist of the passage you wish to quote, or quote it if it is short, and cite the book and line.)

If you have annotated your book, there should be no problem doing this reasonably, including finding and expressing ideas from textual evidence.

1. Describe the morning of the assembly and Telemachus's appearance (p. 93).
2. Look over Telemachus's speech (pp. 94–95). How does it appeal to the emotions of its audience?
3. How does the group in general react to Telemachus's speech? How does Antinous react? Whom does he blame for the suitors' destruction?
4. Compare and contrast Halitherses' and Eurymachus' interpretations of the omen and their tones in speaking.
5. Describe Telemachus's speech to the suitors on p. 100. Consider his tone as well as his words.
6. Mentor describes Odysseus' rule (p. 100) much as Telemachus did. Find other references to Odysseus in Book 2. How does his memory figure into the current situation?
7. What impression does Telemachus make with his final speech to the suitors, p. 103?
8. Eurycleia wants Telemachus to stay home and take care of his father's holdings. What is Telemachus's response (p. 105)?
9. Prepare to read the end of Book 2 out loud (l. 455 forward). To answer this question, describe, using textual evidence, the tone of the end of Book 2, where Telemachus is sailing away.