

## Odyssey Essay Prompts

### Thesis Statement Work

Directions: For each essay prompt create an appropriate thesis statement. Circle the topic of your thesis. Underline the assertion you have made in your statement. You must use the back of this page to write your thesis statements.

1. Is there a difference between being a hero and being a leader? Explain your answer using the character of Odysseus.
2. Does Penelope's story within the *Odyssey* exemplify Joseph Campbell's Monomyth (Hero's Journey) cycle? Explain your answer using events from the novel.
3. Explain the behavior of gods within the *Odyssey*. What insight does their behavior give us into the Greek concept of gods and godliness?
4. Hospitality is an important of ancient Greece's social structure. Discuss how events within the *Odyssey* give insight into this cultural trait. Who abuses and who honors the idea of hospitality?
5. Pride and honor are defining aspects of character in Ancient Greece. Explain how, or if, Odysseus' development over the course of the novel promotes the importance these.
6. Explain how Odysseus personifies the classic Greek hero in the *Odyssey*.
7. Explain how the *Odyssey* gives insight into ancient Greek culture.