

Background of Homer's "The Odyssey."

Teacher:

Date:

Essential Question: How are themes and ideas pertaining to the background of "The Odyssey" present in modern (2014) times?

Questions:

Notes:

The Hero's Journey/Archetypes

**Summary of the hero's journey:** Pattern of narrative identified by Joseph Campbell that appears in drama, story telling, myth, religious ritual, and psychological development. Describes the typical adventure of the archetype known as "The Hero."

Three Examples of Archetype

- The hero: struggles against evil to restore the good.
- Mother figure: fairy godmother type.
- The mentor: protects the main character and guides to help become successful.

Modern example of hero's journey.

Harry Potter, Wizard of Oz, Star Wars  
video: <http://youtu.be/KGV1BvnyvGo>

Homer

A mysterious blind man.

Where and when did he live?

Lived in Greece from 850 - 800 B.C

- What was his occupation (job)?

Wandering poet and a minstrel. Known as one of the first people to create EPIC.

- What type of stories was he best known?


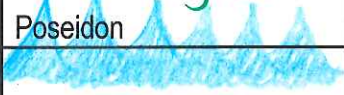

- The Odyssey
  - The Iliad
- Modern Example: Harry Potter

**Epic:** an extended narrative poem recounting actions, travels, adventures and heroic episodes.

Homer's epics: Influence on people and purpose.

"The Odyssey" and "The Iliad."  
Influential because they were fun and entertaining  
They reflect the ideals that every Greek citizen should hold themselves to epitomized in his "heroes."

Modern world examples: Harry Potter "The Last Battle"  
<http://youtu.be/hazEcPbF1T0>

Questions:	Notes:
<b>Mythology</b>	<b>What is a myth?</b> A traditional story usually concerning some being, hero, or event with or without determinable basis of fact. <b>Why were they created?</b> To help explain the unknown or unexplainable, or add a little excitement in lives; their way of making sense of the world.
Athena	Goddess of war and crafts. She liked to make carriages and taught other wives to make tools and crafts as well. Represents positive aspects of war and nobility.
<b>Symbol:</b> olive tree. Owl = wisdom	<b>Daughter</b> of Zeus, his first daughter. Vigorously championed Odysseus' welfare on Olympus. Helped Odysseus through the journey to Ithaca.
Zeus 	God of the <b>sky</b> and ruler of all the Olympians. Symbol is a <b>thunderbolt</b> because that is the weapon he used to fight against the Titans. <b>Cronos</b> is his father. <b>Interesting fact:</b> Zeus swallowed his wife when she was pregnant and Zeus gave birth to Athena, Zeus' father swallowed his brothers and later threw them up.
<b>Zeus &amp; Odysseus:</b>	Zeus aided Odysseus during his journey.
Poseidon 	God of the sea and protector of all waters.
<b>Modern example</b> - King Triton "The Little Mermaid"	Carries a three-pronged spear  that he uses as a magic wand. Odysseus blinded Poseidon's son Polyphmus, so Poseidon obstructed Odysseus' homeward journey. Odysseus was obligated to propitiate the god by performing a sacrifice to him. <b>Polyphmus</b> becomes known as the Cyclops.

Questions:	Notes: <span style="color: red;">→ (fought)</span>
<b>Historical Facts - The Trojan War</b> between 1194-1184 BC. Prince of Paris = Zeus' son.	Waged against the city of Troy by the Achaeans (Greeks) after Paris of Troy took Helen from her husband Menelaus king of Sparta. Menelaus' brother Agamemnon led the expedition to save her along with Achilles, Odysseus, Nestor, and Ajax. How did they manipulate the city of Troy? Pulled a large wooden horse, in which they were hidden in, into the city as a "gift." At night the Greeks climbed out and destroyed the city from within.
<span style="border: 1px solid yellow; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Movie clip: "Troy"</b>  <a href="http://youtu.be/Yb1R6IMF5KQ">http://youtu.be/Yb1R6IMF5KQ</a> </span>	Monster's Inc clip: <a href="http://tinyurl.com/mqfb5rg">http://tinyurl.com/mqfb5rg</a> . Trojan war depicts the dangers of pride. Greeks involved had some type of emotional attachment.
<b>Greek Customs</b>	<b>Courtesy:</b> showing of politeness in attitude and behavior toward others. <span style="color: red;">Ex:</span> Holding the door, saying "Thank You." <b>Hospitality:</b> friendly reception and treatment of guests or strangers. <span style="color: yellow;">Video clip:</span> <a href="http://youtu.be/A40iNV-eTDU">http://youtu.be/A40iNV-eTDU</a>
<b>Commitment:</b> <span style="color: red;">* Modern examples:</span> Prayer, baptism, Confirmation	a pledge or promise; obligation. <span style="color: red;">* Rituals to honor the Gods:</span> Many different things such as human sacrifices done to avoid being harmed by the gods. Aztecs built temples to perform elaborate rituals and sacrifices.
<b>Funerals &amp; death rights:</b>	Memorial services held for 40 days, women would wash bodies during services. <sup>Greek</sup> never schedule funeral on Sunday or a holy Saturday. <span style="color: green;">Society and values</span> based on individual relation in family, local community, and the wider society. Broken up between free people and slaves. Modern values do things that are not harmful to you or anyone else.