

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Aeneas and Odysseus: Side by Side Answer Key

Trait / Theme	Aeneas ( <i>The Aeneid</i> )	Odysseus ( <i>The Odyssey</i> )
<b>Main Motivation</b>	To fulfill his duty and establish the foundations of Rome.	To return home to Ithaca and reclaim his household.
<b>Relationship with the Gods</b>	Guided and often pressured by fate and the will of the gods (esp. Venus, Juno, Jupiter).	Frequently tested by the gods; relies on Athena's aid but often defies others.
<b>Leadership Style</b>	Dutiful, self-sacrificing, prioritizes the survival of his people.	Clever, strategic, sometimes deceptive; focused on his own journey.
<b>Attitude toward Family</b>	Carries his father from Troy, protects his son Ascanius, puts family and legacy first.	Longs for Penelope and Telemachus, but delays often with distractions.
<b>Treatment of Love/Relationships</b>	Leaves Dido despite personal feelings, prioritizing destiny over romance.	Stays loyal to Penelope but lingers with Circe and Calypso.
<b>Response to Fate</b>	Accepts fate as unchangeable and submits to destiny.	Attempts to outwit fate; relies on cunning and personal will.
<b>Major Flaw or Weakness</b>	Overwhelmed by duty, sometimes cold and emotionally detached.	Pride and hubris, easily angered, sometimes reckless.
<b>Ultimate Goal</b>	To establish the future city of Rome through his descendants.	To return home and reclaim his throne as king of Ithaca.

### Concluding Sentence (Sample):

Aeneas is unique among epic heroes because he consistently chooses **duty** over **personal desire**, embodying the Roman ideal of *pietas*.