

Name _____

Odysseus's Path Answer Key

Correct Chronological Order

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|---|--|
| 1. Raid on the Cicones | 6. Sirens (tied to the mast) |
| 2. Encounter with the Lotus-Eaters | 7. Scylla and Charybdis |
| 3. Blinding the Cyclops Polyphemus | 8. Cattle of Helios (crew destroyed) |
| 4. Trapped by Circe (Aeaea) | 9. Captivity with Calypso (Ogygia) |
| 5. Journey to the Land of the Dead (Tiresias) | 10. Return to Ithaca and defeat of the suitors |

Reflection Question Guidance

1. **Cleverness:** The Cyclops episode, where Odysseus uses the "Nobody" trick and blinds Polyphemus.
2. **Leadership/weakness:** Helios's cattle shows his inability to control his men; also Scylla/Charybdis where he sacrifices some to save most.
3. The timeline of struggles emphasizes how **perseverance, endurance, and the will of the gods** shape Odysseus's journey.
4. Student answers may vary:
 - Some may argue Odysseus grows wiser (he learns humility and respect for the gods).
 - Others may argue he remains prideful and clever but not fully changed.

Teacher Notes:

- This activity builds both **comprehension** (sequencing) and **analysis** (theme/character growth).
- Encourage students to note how **storytelling order** in Homer (nonlinear flashbacks) differs from **chronological order**.
- Students should support reflections with **textual evidence** or paraphrased details from the epic.