Warm-Up

The Odyssey: Theme Development, Part 6

Lesson Goals

Read from “Test of the Bow,” “Death in the Great Hall,” and “The Trunk of the Olive Tree” from .

Compare characters to notice how they .

Organize the events of the character’s .

Summarize a .

Words to Know

Write the letter of the definition next to the matching word as you work through the lesson. You may use the glossary to help you.

_____ compare A. to change over time in a way that is more successful or somehow improved

_____ evolve B. a character who changes in important ways over the course of a text

_____ theme C. to consider two or more things to see how they are similar or different

_____ Dynamic character D. one message a text conveys about a topic
**The Odyssey So Far**

*Circle the place where Odysseus first gets blown off course. Then circle the place where Odysseus disguises himself as an old beggar to fight Penelope’s suitors.*
Comparing Characters

To compare means to consider two or more things to see how they are or .

To compare two characters, consider:

• their words and .

• their specific .

• how each character approaches .

Analyzing Characters by Comparing Them

Underline one phrase that shows strength at the end of each paragraph.

We Cyclopes care not a whistle for your thundering Zeus or all the gods in bliss; we have more force by far.

–The Odyssey, Homer

If ever mortal man inquire how you were put to shame and blinded, tell him Odysseus, raider of cities, took your eye.

–The Odyssey, Homer
Analyzing Changes in a Character

A dynamic character is a character who changes in important ways over the course of a text. Dynamic characters experience conflicts and learning from them.

Follow these steps to compare a changed character to his or her original self.

- Note the character’s traits.
- Watch for events in the plot that affect the character.
- Consider what is unusual about the character’s behavior that shows how he or she has changed.
Influencing a Character to Change

Complete the graphic organizer.

Scylla and Charybdis

- Odysseus learns that being a good means making for his men.
- Odysseus learns that his curiosity and can cause greater.
- Odysseus learns that have to make difficult.

The Hero’s Journey

- Call to home
- Road of
- Supreme
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Reviewing Odysseus’s Journey

- Return

The Hero’s Journey

- • Lotus-Eaters
- • Cyclops
- • Scylla and Charybdis
- • Supreme ordeal

The End of the Quest

In preparation for his ____________, Odysseus:

- wears the ________ of an old beggar.
- meets with his ________, Telemachus.
- devises a plan to see who is loyal.
- endures ________ but waits for the right time to strike.
Theme in *The Odyssey*

A **theme** is one method a text conveys about a topic.

**Theme:**

- Good leaders take responsibility for their **actions**.
- Too much **pride** can get one into trouble.

**Not a theme:**

- 
- Odysseus shows **guile**.

**Analyzing Theme Development**

*Underline the character in each paragraph who gets into trouble because of pride.*

'Cyclops,'
If ever mortal man inquire
how you were put to shame and blinded,
tell him
Odysseus, raider of cities, took your eye:
Laertes' son, whose home's on Ithaca!'
–The Odyssey, *Homer*

"A bow lover!"
"Dealer in old bows!"
"Maybe he has one like it at home!"
"Or has an itch to make one for himself."
"See how he handles it, the sly old buzzard!"
And one disdainful suitor added this:
"May his fortune grow an inch for every inch he bends it!"
–The Odyssey, *Homer*
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**Lesson Question**

How are characters and themes developed in epic poetry?

**Answer**

Use this space to write any questions or thoughts about this lesson.