

VOYAGERS & GODS: CHARACTER MAP

Books 1-6 | Track family, divine aid, hospitality, and the search for home.

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____ DATE: _____



DIRECTIONS Complete every node with specific information from the reading. Draw and label at least six relationship lines between characters.

PENELOPE

Connection to Telemachus:

Conflict / key trait:

TELEMACHUS

Role in Ithaca:

Change across Books 1-4:

ATHENA

Disguise and purpose:

How she helps:

ODYSSEUS

Where he is:

Why his absence matters:

THE SUITORS

Behavior in Ithaca:

Conflict they create:

NESTOR

Where Telemachus meets him:

Help or information:

MENELAUS

Where Telemachus meets him:

News he provides:

CALYPSO

Connection to Odysseus:

Conflict in Book 5:

NAUSICAA

Where she meets Odysseus:

Choice / key trait:

BOTTOM-LINE CONNECTION

Which character most changes the direction of another character's journey? Explain with two details.

CHARACTER EVIDENCE LAB

Books 1-6 | Build an answer from a claim, a precise event, and an explanation.

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____ DATE: _____



PART A - FOUR RELATIONSHIPS

Telemachus + Athena

Relationship / tension: _____

Specific event: _____

What it reveals: _____

Telemachus + Penelope

Relationship / tension: _____

Specific event: _____

What it reveals: _____

Telemachus + the Suitors

Relationship / tension: _____

Specific event: _____

What it reveals: _____

Odysseus + Calypso

Relationship / tension: _____

Specific event: _____

What it reveals: _____

PART B - XENIA CHECK

Evaluate each host. Give a rating from 1-5, describe the welcome, and explain whether it follows xenia.

Nestor

Rating: ___/5 Evidence: _____

Menelaus and Helen

Rating: ___/5 Evidence: _____

Calypso

Rating: ___/5 Evidence: _____

Nausicaa

Rating: ___/5 Evidence: _____

PART C - 5-6 SENTENCE ANALYSIS

How do Athena and the rules of xenia help vulnerable travelers survive in Books 1-6? Use at least two characters and two specific events.

CHARACTER MAP: TEACHER KEY

Suggested responses; accept equivalent answers supported by Books 1-6.

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____ DATE: _____



TELEMACHUS

Odysseus's son and heir in Ithaca. He begins uncertain but gains courage, speaks publicly, and travels for news.

PENELOPE

Telemachus's mother and Odysseus's faithful wife. Intelligent and grieving; pressured by the suitors.

ATHENA

Goddess who appears as Mentos/Mentor. Encourages Telemachus, arranges his journey, and protects Odysseus.

ODYSSEUS

King of Ithaca, stranded with Calypso. His long absence leaves his home and family vulnerable.

THE SUITORS

Noblemen consuming Odysseus's wealth while demanding Penelope choose a husband. They threaten Telemachus.

NESTOR

King of Pylos. Practices xenia, recalls Troy, and directs Telemachus toward Menelaus.

MENELAUS

King of Sparta. Welcomes Telemachus and reports that Proteus revealed Odysseus is alive on Calypso's island.

CALYPSO

Immortal nymph detaining Odysseus on Ogygia. Ordered by Zeus through Hermes to release him.

NAUSICAA

Phaeacian princess who finds Odysseus after the storm. Shows courage and xenia and guides him toward the palace.

BOTTOM LINE

Athena most clearly redirects Telemachus: she challenges his passivity, prompts the assembly, and sends him to Pylos and Sparta. Accept other well-supported choices.

EVIDENCE LAB: TEACHER KEY

Model ideas for checking evidence and reasoning.

NAME: _____ PERIOD: _____ DATE: _____



RELATIONSHIPS

Telemachus + Athena	Mentor/student: Athena builds his courage and makes the journey possible.
Telemachus + Penelope	Son/mother: they share grief, but his new independence changes their dynamic.
Telemachus + Suitors	Heir/invaders: he challenges their abuse; they begin plotting against him.
Odysseus + Calypso	Captive/captor: she desires him, but he longs for Penelope and home.

XENIA CHECK

Nestor	5: feast, questions after welcome, transport and guidance.
Menelaus/Helen	5: bathing, food, gifts, stories, and news.
Calypso	1-2: comfort exists, but Odysseus is not free to leave until ordered.
Nausicaa	4-5: clothing, food, safety instructions, and respectful aid.

ANALYSIS MODEL

Athena protects travelers by giving Telemachus courage, disguises, guidance, and favorable conditions. Xenia gives strangers a social rule that can protect them before their identity is known. Nestor and Menelaus feed Telemachus before questioning him, helping his search continue. Nausicaa aids the shipwrecked Odysseus with clothing and directions. Together, divine help and human hospitality keep both journeys moving when the travelers lack power.