



Fun in Phaeacia Study Guide (Books 7-8)

Se Hold over from Book 6 - Nausicaa Helps Odysseus

1. Helping the audience to visualize – similes and epic similes

- A. When Odysseus first meets Nausicaa, what goddess does he say she looks like? What would Homer's audience assume Nausicaa looked like?

- B. Read the epic simile and accompanying narrative at 6.139-152.

2. How does Athena help Odysseus look good? Why would Athena do this?

3. Do you see any irony in Odysseus's prayer at 6. 356-7. What *type* of irony is this?

Book 7

Identify: Alcinous & Arete, Pallas, the “little girl” outside the palace

1. Even though the Phaeacians “never suffer strangers gladly” (Od. 7. 36), how does Odysseus manage to get into the palace without any problem?

2. What specific request does Odysseus make of the Phaeacians?

3. How many years has Odysseus spent on Calypso's island?

4. How do we know that Alcinous is impressed with Odysseus? What does Alcinous offer to Odysseus? Does Alcinous know who Odysseus is?

5. Why does Arete ask Odysseus about his clothing? What quality does this show about Arete?

6. Define *disingenuous*:

In Book 6, Nausicaa claims that it would not be proper or in accordance with her parents' wishes for Odysseus to enter the city with her. How is her statement shown to be **disingenuous** in Book 7?

7. What "helpful" lie (helpful to Nausicaa) does Odysseus tell to Alcinous and Arete?

Book 8:

Identify: Demodocus + Broadsea

1. What confrontation does Odysseus get involved in? How is it resolved?
2. What story about Aphrodite, Ares, + Hephaestus does Demodocus tell?
3. What foreshadowing occurs at the end of Book 8? What has been prophesized about Poseidon's future actions with respect to Phaeacia?
 - 3A. Why is it odd that Poseidon would harm Alcinous's subjects?
4. What is special about the Phaeacian ships?

Trivia questions –

1. What guards the outside of Alcinous's mansion?
2. What are we told about King Rhexenor's (brother of Alcinous) death?
3. Who is the presumed killer of Deiphobus?

🌟*Test review

Are you ready for the test? Who/What are the following:

- Odysseus
- Penelope
- Telemachus
- Laertes
- Eurycleia
- Antinous
- Eurymachus
- Agamemnon
- Lesser Ajax
- Orestes
- Clytemnestra
- Cassandra
- Iphigenia
- Aegisthus
- Alcinous & Arete
- Nausicaa
- Demodocus
- Laodamus
- Broadsea
- Mentor
- Mentos
- Nestor
- Pisistratus
- Menelaus
- Helen
- Deiphobus
- Zeus
- Hermes
- Athena
- Poseidon
- Calypso
- Proteus
- Ino
- river god
- Pylos
- Pharos/ Egypt
- Sparta

- Ithaca
- Ogygia
- Phaeacia
- Scheria
- The phantom

Be sure to study:

- All Study Guides
- Handout on characteristics of the epic in Study Guide to Book 1. Be sure to be able to identify these characteristics.
- grammar
- vocabulary

Disguises of Athena

Xenia

Trust in the gods