



Orientation

Ensure that you have read about using the plan in the Program Guide.

Book summary

Read the following summary to the student.

A man-eating Cyclops, a goddess who can change men into pigs, and a six-headed monster – these are some of the many challenges that Odysseus and his men must face on their way home to Ithaca from Troy.

Introduction

Foster interest and activate the student's background knowledge. Be concise – focus on motivating and involving the student. Encourage prediction by using the text and illustrations on the cover of the book. Discuss new vocabulary and remind the student to use the glossary (when applicable). Also remind the student to ask him/herself questions before, during and after the reading.

Discuss the clues in the blurb and the cover and title page illustrations that show that this is not a true story. Tell the student that this story is based on the Greek myth *The Odyssey*. Flick through the book together and discuss the setting and the Greek names.

Explain that the student will need to combine what they read with their background knowledge to understand why some things happen. This is making inferences. Ask the student as they read to think about why Polyphemus told the other Cyclopes that Nobody had hurt him and why the sirens' singing sounded beautiful to Odysseus but not to his men.

Conferencing

Check how well the student reads

When you are conferencing, the student reads all or part of the book to you. Then:

- praise, pause, and prompt appropriately;
- check for accuracy (by counting mistakes) and fluency;
- check for understanding by using one or more of the following methods:
 - asking the comprehension questions provided and any others that seem necessary;
 - asking the student to retell the story in their own words;
 - asking questions about and discussing aspects of the story, such as the theme, plot, main ideas, sequence and characters;
 - encouraging the student to confirm the predictions they made during the orientation.

Decide what the student does next

Next recommend that the student:

- practices some more on the same book, with or without the audio;
- completes one of the activities provided that is related to the book;
- practices with another book from the same level; or
- is assessed for promotion to the next level.

Comprehension questions

1. Why were Odysseus and his men making this journey?
2. How did telling Polyphemus that his name was Nobody help Odysseus to escape?
3. How did Circe tempt Odysseus's men?
4. Why did the sirens' singing sound beautiful to Odysseus but not to his crew?
5. What other adventures might Odysseus have endured on his journey home?

Answers to the Comprehension questions

1. They were returning home to Ithaca after the Trojan war.
2. It was a trick so the Cyclops wouldn't know who was in his cave, and he would be misunderstood when he called for help.
3. She offered them food and drink.
4. Odysseus could hear the sirens and so was enchanted by them, but as his crew couldn't hear them, they weren't.
5. Answers will vary.

Supporting English Language Learners

The following are suggestions for optional lessons to take with your English language learners. See the overview chart in the Program Guide for a summary of the text features of this book.

Purpose

Exploring base words and suffixes

Introduce the concept and practice

Understanding spelling generalizations will enable the student to use them in their own writing.

When the student has read the book, return to pages 6–7. Ask them to list the nine verb forms ending with “ing” (“snoring,” “aiming,” “screaming,” “neighboring,” “holding,” “having,” “feeling,” “escaping,” and “rowing”). Help the student to write the base word next to each verb, for example, “snore.”

Discuss how each base word has changed, for example, adding “ing” or dropping the “e” and adding “ing.” Help the student to find other verbs that end with “ing” and have the same spelling patterns. They may find words that follow other spelling patterns, such as doubling the final consonant and adding “ing” or changing the final “ie” to “y” and adding “ing.” Encourage the student to use these spelling patterns in their own writing.





Name: Date:

Introduction: A man-eating Cyclops, a goddess who can change men into pigs, and a six-headed monster – these are some of the many challenges that Odysseus and his men must face on their way home to Ithaca from Troy.

Errors M S

After ten years of bravely fighting in the Trojan war, Odysseus and his men were caught in a storm on their way home to Ithaca. "Row!" shouted Odysseus. "We _____ reach that island!" Although _____ crewmen were exhausted, they _____ on their oars. The _____ scooped up the ship _____ dumped it close to _____. The storm died down, _____ the men fell into _____. When they awoke, Odysseus _____ his men took some _____ to trade and rowed _____. They saw a cave _____ climbed up to it. "_____ must live here," said Odysseus. "_____ a fire burning." "_____!" said one of his _____. "There are huge baskets _____ food. Let's help ourselves _____ go back to the _____." Odysseus shook his head. "_____ must find out where _____ are," he said. "We'll _____ for the owner and _____ with him." As they _____ near the fire at _____ back of the cave, a flock of sheep came clattering in.

Accuracy Chart (Exact word replacement only)

Words Entered	Score	Level
More than 11 correct		Independent
10 or 11 correct		Instructional
Fewer than 10 correct		Frustration

Errors

M = Meaning (makes sense) ____ S = Syntax (sounds right) ____

Heard Seen Unseen

Comments:





After ten years of bravely fighting in the Trojan war, Odysseus and his men were caught in a storm on their way home to Ithaca. They reached an island and, taking some drink to trade, they rowed ashore. They climbed up to a cave and waited for the owner to return. While they were waiting, a flock of sheep came clattering in.

“Look at the size of them!” said one crewman. “They’re as big as horses!” Odysseus reached for his sword. “Look at the shepherd!” he cried. It was a Cyclops with a single large eye in his forehead. The Cyclops, Polyphemus, picked up one of the crewmen and ate him. When Polyphemus fell asleep, the men sharpened one end of a log and drove it into his eye.

He awoke screaming but, being blinded, was unable to find the men among his sheep. He let the sheep out one by one, feeling their backs to make sure that no men were escaping. The men clung to the bellies of the giant sheep and escaped. Odysseus yelled to Polyphemus, “It was I, Odysseus, who blinded you.”

Polyphemus roared back, “My father, Poseidon, god of the ocean, will seek revenge for me!” Poseidon sent a storm that Odysseus and his men battled for days before their ship was washed up on another island. A beautiful goddess named Circe invited the men to her house on the island. They all went eagerly except for Odysseus who sensed a trap.

He watched as Circe turned all the men into pigs. Taking a herb to protect himself, Odysseus asked Circe to reverse her spell. “You may have your men back if you stay a while,” Circe said. Odysseus agreed. After a year, he left, knowing that he would have to pass sirens whose singing would make his crewmen jump to their deaths.

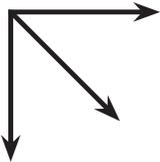
The crewmen’s ears were plugged with wax so that they wouldn’t hear the sirens’ song. Odysseus wanted to go closer when he heard the song, but he was tied to the mast. They rowed through a narrow channel and the six-headed monster Scylla ripped six of the crewmen from the ship. After nine years and many other adventures, only Odysseus made it home to Ithaca.





Name: Date:

Words can be found in these directions:



The letter in each square can only be used in one word.

a	n	o	t	h	e	r	y	o	u	r	s	e	l	f	g
n	i	c	t	o	e	x	h	a	u	s	t	e	d	s	e
i	b	s	a	a	n	d	c	a	c	r	o	s	s	h	n
g	s	e	l	u	a	m	b	a	w	t	h	e	y	e	t
h	h	i	a	a	g	a	t	e	r	o	w	u	e	p	l
t	i	n	n	c	n	h	s	e	a	e	u	a	p	h	e
m	p	h	e	m	h	d	t	o	n	u	f	l	s	e	l
a	f	o	r	w	a	r	d	r	m	t	t	u	d	r	e
r	o	u	r	s	e	l	v	e	s	e	r	i	l	d	t
e	m	e	s	s	e	n	g	e	r	w	t	a	f	l	e
d	e	l	i	c	i	o	u	s	r	e	v	h	n	u	y
w	m	o	u	n	t	a	i	n	e	a	m	o	i	c	l
b	e	n	e	a	t	h	i	t	a	p	c	u	i	n	e
t	b	b	r	o	u	g	h	t	c	o	m	e	s	c	g
w	u	o	a	r	o	u	n	d	h	n	y	o	u	t	e
o	t	n	s	o	m	e	o	n	e	t	o	w	a	r	d

Words to find:

- | | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| across | but | in | on | toward |
| am | carefully | island | ourselves | two |
| and | caught | it | reach | up |
| another | delicious | let | shepherd | voice |
| around | entrance | me | ship | was |
| at | exhausted | messenger | someone | weapon |
| beach | forward | mountain | something | would |
| beautiful | gentle | must | they | you |
| beneath | he | nightmare | to | yourself |
| brought | | | | |

Use the letters that are left to make the word that tells what Polyphemus, the Cyclops, ate.





- ★ Spin the numbered spinner.
- ★ The highest number starts.
- ★ You need to spin the exact number to move onto the END square.

START
 After ten years fighting in the Trojan war, you and your men are on your way home.

1

2

3 You are caught in a storm. Miss a turn.

19

20

21

22 You've eaten a herb that protects you from Circe's magic. Go on to 25.

4

18 The beautiful goddess Circe turns your men into pigs. Go back to 14.

END
 After nine long years and many other adventures, you make it home to Ithaca alone.

23

5

17

30

24 You set sail again and make it safely past the sirens. Go forward 3 spaces.

6 The wind dumps you close to an island. Spin again. If you spin an even number, go on to 10.

16

29

25

7

15 Poseidon sends a violent storm that you battle for days. Go back 4 spaces.

28

27

26 The six-headed monster Scylla rips six of your crewmen from the ship. Spin again. Go back that number.

8 The Cyclops eats one of your crewmen. Name 2 numbers. If you spin one of them, go back to 5.

14

13

12 You escape Polyphemus by clinging to the belly of a giant sheep. Go on to 16.

11

10

9





Name: **Date:**

Using the graphic organizer below, create a story map that describes the events and challenges that Odysseus faced on his journey. An example has been provided for you.

Event	Problem	Solution
A storm sends Odysseus and his crew off course to the island of the Cyclops.	Polyphemus starts eating Odysseus's crew.	The crew blinds Polyphemus and escapes by clinging to the bellies of sheep.

Write on the back of this page if you need more space.

REMEMBER List the events in the order that they happened.

