

## Vocabulary

- impetuous** (im pech' ōō əs) *adj.* acting or done with little thought; rash; impulsive (page 33)
  - squandered** (skwän' dərd) *v.* spent or used wastefully or extravagantly (page 33)
  - limpid** (lim' pid) *adj.* perfectly clear; not cloudy; clear and simple (page 56)
  - shambling** (sham' bliŋ) *adj.* walking in a lazy or clumsy manner; shuffling (page 73)
  - wiles** (wilz) *n.* sly tricks; deceitful artifices; beguiling tricks (page 96)
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- voracious** (vô rā' shəs) *adj.* greedy in eating; very greedy or eager in some desire or pursuit; insatiable (page 104)
  - tenacious** (tə nāsh' əs) *adj.* holding firmly; that holds together strongly; cohesive; tough (page 109)
  - suppliant** (sup' lē ənt) *adj.* asking humbly; entreating; expressing supplication (page 122)
  - plenitude** (plen' i tōōd') *n.* fullness; completeness; abundance; plenty (page 123)
  - impertinent** (im pərt' 'n ənt) *adj.* having no connection with a given matter; irrelevant; insolent; impudent (page 151)
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- beguiling** (bē gil' iŋ) *adj.* charming; delighting (page 193)
  - insidiously** (in sid' ē əs lē) *adj.* treacherously or slyly; craftily; in a wily manner (page 202)
  - guile** (gīl) *n.* slyness and cunning in dealing with others; craftiness (page 216)
  - wanton** (wän' tən) *adj.* senseless, unprovoked (page 246)
  - imperious** (im pir' ē əs) *adj.* overbearing; arrogant; domineering (page 302)
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- augury** (ō' gyōō rē) *n.* omen; sign; portent; indication (page 365)
  - squalid** (skwäl' id) *adj.* foul or unclean, as the result of neglect or unsanitary conditions; sordid (page 451)
  - obdurate** (äb' dūr it) *adj.* not giving in readily; stubborn; obstinate (page 462)
  - tumult** (tōō' mult') *n.* noisy commotion, as of a crowd; confusion; agitation; disturbance (page 475)
  - consummate** (kən sum' it) *adj.* complete or perfect in every way; very skillful; highly expert (page 477)

## Books I–III (pages 1–59)

### Discussion Questions

- Why has Odysseus had such difficulty in his voyage?
- Who is Antinoös, and why would Telémachus be hostile to him?
- In what ways does Telémachus receive divine help?

**Writing Activity** In a paragraph, contrast Pylos under Nestor's rule with Ithaca awaiting Odysseus' return.

## Books IV–VI (pages 61–127)

### Discussion Questions

- What impresses Telémachus about Meneláus and his mansion, and what do those details tell you about the historical setting of the work?
- How does Meneláus know Odysseus' whereabouts?
- With what actions and statements does Odysseus impress Nausícaa?

**Writing Activity** In a paragraph, describe the character of Nausícaa.

## Books VII–IX (pages 129–187)

### Discussion Questions

- What motive do you think King Alcinoös might have for offering Odysseus his daughter in marriage?
- What is the significance of Demódocus' comic tale?
- What does Odysseus' plan of escape from Polyphémus tell about Odysseus' character and about his stature as an epic hero?

**Writing Activity** Write a paragraph in which you use three adjectives to describe Odysseus and briefly explain why they apply to him.

## Books X–XII (pages 189–252)

### Discussion Questions

- Why does Odysseus remain with Círcē for a year?