

The Odyssey: Books 1 and 5

Activity: Newsfeed, Newsroom

Books 1 and 5 of *The Odyssey* begin in media res (in the middle of things), introducing the reader to a harried Odysseus on the verge of homecoming. In book one, the story alludes (refers) to an incident in which Odysseus lost all his men. In Book 5, we see Odysseus finally freed from Calypso's island after seven years.

1) Why would a writer want to start telling their story in the middle of the action? Does the choice to do so make the reader feel suspense, curiosity, or surprise? Discuss in your group.

2) Now, imagine you and your group belong to a media organization that has been following the story of Odysseus since the end of the Trojan War. Each group will be given a page, cover, feed, etc. representing a different type of news or media format. The group must then identify the type of publication, its audience, and the tone used in order to brainstorm and create several new posts covering the characters and events in *The Odyssey* Books 1 and 5.



Timeline About Photos Likes More ▾

Like

Message

⋮

Invite friends to like this Page

ABOUT >

- Help us bring home beloved father and husband, Hero of the Trojan War, Odysseus. Ithaca needs him!
- Add your website

PHOTOS >



Status Photo / Video 31 Event, Milestone +

Write something...

This post is now hidden from your timeline. Undo

Bring Odysseus Home 1 min · 🌐

While we wait at home, mother keeps busy by weaving on her loom.



VISITOR POSTS >



Be the first to add a post.

Create Post

Bring Odysseus Home 3 mins · 🌐

Odysseys has been gone for seven years now. The latest word is that he is being held by the goddess Calypso on her island. We've been praying to Athena more and more lately, hoping she can pull favor with her father, Zeus, to free Odysseys from Calypso's grasp.

If you want to join in on our prayer, send a gift to Athena on Odysseys' behalf! Some of her favorite gifts include: Owl-shaped charms or paintings, and olive branches or olive oil.

Boost Post

Like Comment Share

1. Based on this image, who are the authors or curators of this webpage?

2. Based on this image, who is the audience for this webpage?

3. What is the tone of the webpage? What do you think the goal of the webpage is?

4. What types of articles, posts, images, or pages would be appropriate (in keeping with the overall objective/tone) for this webpage?

5. In your group, come up with at least 4 new posts for this webpage that cover the events in Books 1 and 5 of *The Odyssey*.



GODDESS

AFTER TROY

The World's Most
Beautiful Woman:

You've Never
Seen Her like This

**Demi-God or
Deadbeat?**

pg. 34

Our Experts Weigh In

ASK

APHRODITE

pg. 68

**15 Pages of
Island
Getaways:**

**Spend your
Summer like
a Goddess.**

Including Calypso's
Island!

**PLUS:
Helen's Best
Beauty**

**Penelope's
Makeover**

**Tips to
Survive your
Long-
distance
Relationship
and MORE!**

1. Based on this image, who are the authors or curators of this magazine?

2. Based on this image, who is the audience for this magazine?

3. What is the tone of the magazine? What do you think the goal of the publication is?

4. What types of articles, posts, images, or pages would be appropriate (in keeping with the overall objective/tone) for this magazine?

5. In your group, come up with at least 2 new articles for this magazine that cover the events in Books 1 and 5 of *The Odyssey*.

HUMANS OF ANCIENT GREECE



"I'm a simple goatherd from the island of Ithaca. It's been very difficult lately to keep the goats safe. Suitors have been all over the island because they want to marry King Odysseus' wife, Penelope. I've never seen a woman so faithful. But she has to keep the men happy, which means she has to feed them. And so my poor herd grows smaller and smaller. This is all I have left. I know that we raise the goats for food, milk, and hides. But you get attached to them. Some days I think about sneaking onto a ship with them and sailing for another island. But I don't think I'm clever enough to get away with it. I can hear them now, coming up over the ridge. I just hope they don't take the little one."



"We're playing 'Trojan War.' I'm Paris and she's Helen. I'm about to steal her!"

"Not if I have anything to say about it!"



"We noticed a lot of debris washing up on the beach. Shipwrecks happen all the time here. But this time is different because there's no sign of a crew. I wonder what happened. Maybe the sirens got them. My mother always told me, stay away from women with beautiful voices. That's why not married. It's my job to clean up after the shipwrecks. Usually the men we find washed up have little love notes tucked into their pockets. I can only imagine how sad their wives are. Someday I might go to sea. At least then, if my ship goes down, I won't have anybody disappointed, waiting for me."

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5. In your group, come up with at least 3 new posts for this webpage that cover the events in Books 1 and 5 of *The Odyssey*.

- Tweets >
- Following >
- Followers >
- Favorites >
- Lists >

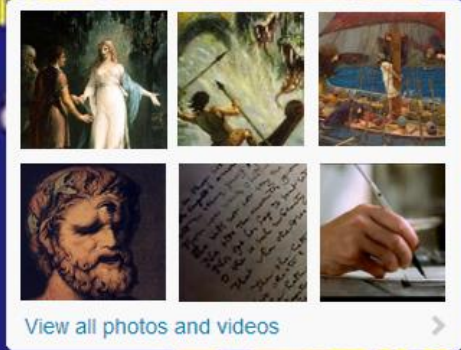
Tweet to Odysseus



Odysseus
@KingofIthaca
Hero of the Trojan War
Ithaca, Greece— <http://www.cleverguy.com>

14,234 TWEETS 5,321 FOLLOWING 3,445,234 FOLLOWERS

 **Following**



- Who to follow · Refresh · View all
-  **Calypso** @Stage5Clinger
Followed by Hermes and 30 others
Follow
 -  **Penelope** @FaithfulWeaver
Followed by Suitor595 and others
Follow
- Browse categories · Find friends

Trends · Change

[#trojanhorse](#) [#helenthehottie](#) [#wheresoddy](#)

- Tweets
-  **Odysseus** @OddvofIthaca 3m
@Stage5Clinger Home is where the heart is.
[View conversation](#)
 -  **Odysseus** @OddvofIthaca 1w
When my men complain: But did you die? #leadership
[#toosoon](#)
Expand
 -  **Odysseus** @OddvofIthaca 9y
@owlgirlgoddess Sure you're not Hephaestus? [#theburn](#)
[View conversation](#)
 -  **Athena** @owlgirlgoddess 9y
A wise man once said: My name is No One.
[Retweeted](#) by William Shakespeare
 -  **Odysseus** @OddvofIthaca 10y
@FaithfulWeaver On my way home babel! #hero #love
[View conversation](#)

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5. In your group, come up with at least 6 new posts for this webpage that cover the events in Books 1 and 5 of *The Odyssey*.

The Olive

Ancient Greece's Finest News Source

“Common Sense” Seminars Added to Trojan Military Training



The remains of Troy's decimated military ranks gathered in a misty field Saturday morning for what Capt. Constantine described as “Common Sense” training. The soldiers proceeded to offer one another horse-shaped gifts.

It Turns Out Beauty Isn't a Good Enough Reason to Go to War.

King [Melanus](#) of Sparta faces impeachment trial over questionable military decisions.

[read more pg A19](#)

War Hero's Homecoming Ruined by the Fact That He Didn't Come Home.

Poseidon refuses to apologize despite wife's emotional pleas.

[read more pg A17](#)

“Many refused the offerings, which was a good sign that we have learned from our past mistakes,” Capt. Constantine beamed. “The ones who didn't found that the toy horses broke open to reveal tiny but dangerous spiders or bees. I doubt they'll do THAT again.”

[read more pg 4A](#)

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