

Name: _____

Mythology
Reading Quiz M&L 20

- _____ 1. The old nursemaid Euryclea knows the "beggar" Odysseus because (a) she recognizes his voice (b) she recognizes a scar on his leg (c) Hermes has informed her of Odysseus' arrival (d) she was skilled in reading omens and had seen signs of his return
- _____ 2. The meaning of Odysseus' name is (a) man of many travels (b) man with the bow (c) man of cunning (d) man of pain
- _____ 3. On the way home from the Trojan War, Ajax the Lesser was killed when he (a) tried to sail past Scylla (b) stepped on a snake in Crete (c) tried to seduce Cassandra (d) boasted that none of the gods could keep him from escaping death at sea
- _____ 4. Which is NOT true of Odysseus' encounter with the Phaeacians? (a) the young princess Nausicaa finds him while she is washing clothes (b) the Phaeacians refuse to send him home because he has incurred the curse of their patron deity, Poseidon (c) They give him rich gifts (d) Poseidon turns the ship that brought him to Ithaca into stone
- _____ 5. After the Trojan war, Helen (a) is sold into slavery (b) is taken up to Mount Olympus by her father Zeus (c) becomes the wife of Neoptolemus (d) returns to Sparta as its queen
- _____ 6. How did Odysseus escape from the lair of the Cyclops? (a) he tricked Polyphemus into divulging the secret exit (b) he got Polyphemus drunk, pried open the door, and fled (c) he clung to the underside of a ram as it was going out to pasture (d) Polyphemus let him go because he proved too cunning an adversary
- _____ 7. The term "nostos" means (a) homecoming (b) adventure (c) loss (d) eternity
- _____ 8. Among what people were Odysseus' men almost lulled into staying, forgetting their own homeland? (a) the Cicones (b) the Laestrygonians (c) the Phaeacians (d) the Lotus Eaters
- _____ 9. How did Odysseus and his men offend the god Helios? (a) they blinded his son Polyphemus (b) they killed his cattle (c) they tried to trick the Sirens by stopping their ears with wax (d) they tried to carry off Calypso
- _____ 10. What goddess was Odysseus' protector (and friend): (a) Aphrodite (b) Athena (c) Circe (d) Hera

Name: _____

- _____ 11. How does Aeolus try to help Odysseus? (a) he tells him of the dangers he must still face (b) he instructs him to descend into the underworld (c) he gives him a magic herb to counteract Circe's magic (d) he gives him a leather bag containing all but one of the winds
- _____ 12. Which of the following did not return home and find that his wife had been adulterous? (a) Agamemnon (b) Diomedes (c) Idomeneus (d) Nestor
- _____ 13. Which god persecutes Odysseus? (a) Hermes (b) Oceanus (c) Poseidon (d) Zeus
- _____ 14. When Odysseus returns to Ithaca, he returns to his palace: (a) with his men armed against the suitors (b) calling for Penelope (c) disguised as a beggar (d) bringing in the sacrificial animals
- _____ 15. What is the usual epithet of Penelope? (a) long suffering (b) despairing (c) faithful (d) circumspect
- _____ 16. Odysseus was able to sail past the Sirens by (a) blocking the ears of his men with wax and having himself tied to the mast (b) having one of his men out-sing them (c) blindfolding himself so he couldn't see them (d) eating the plant moly to preserve him from enchantment
- _____ 17. The goddess with whom Odysseus lived for seven years was (a) Calypso (b) Cassandra (c) Charybdis (d) Circe
- _____ 18. The Laestrygonians were (a) cannibals (b) friendly to Odysseus (c) supporters of the suitors (d) worshippers of Poseidon
- _____ 19. Odysseus had to go to the Underworld to (a) get advice from Tiresias (b) talk to Achilles (c) see his mother (d) obtain new armor
- _____ 20. Faced with the problem of having to get past Scylla and Charybdis, Odysseus (a) prays to the Nereids, who guide his ship through the gap (b) steers close to Scylla, sacrificing six of his men (c) steers close to Charybdis, almost losing the ship to the whirlpool (d) steers perfectly between the two dangers without divine help
- _____ 21. Odysseus defeats the Cyclops by (a) getting him drunk (b) telling him stories of their adventures to date (c) threatening to turn him into a pig (d) demonstrating that Athena favors him
- _____ 22. *Xenia* is (a) a sacred relationship between a host and a guest (b) the part of the Odyssey where Odysseus visits the underworld (c) the collective term for the suitors (d) the term for the collective homecomings of the Greeks after Troy