Part 2--"The Meeting of Father and Son"

*Odysseus has returned to Ithaca; upon goddess of wisdom Athena's instructions, he is disguised as a beggar.

*Telemachus returns from Pylos--he has been away for a year.

*He speaks to this beggar--not knowing that this is actually his father--dramatic irony.

*Athena magically transforms him into a young Odysseus in his prime.

*At first, Telemachus doesn't believe that this is really his father. . .but finally, he accepts the truth.
"The Beggar and the Faithful Dog"

*As Odysseus returns to his family home, only his old and faithful dog, Argos, recognizes him by his voice; however, it is both sad and ironic that once he sees his master again after 20 long years, death overtakes him. . .

*Symbol of loyalty. . .
"The Test of the Great Bow"

*Penelope comes up with our almost impossible plan to determine which suitor can have her hand in marriage.
*Test—must be able to string Odysseus' old bow and shoot through 12 ax halves.
*Two men (Eumaeus and Philoteus) find out that their king Odysseus has returned.
*As instructed by his father, Telemachus takes all the suitors' weapons from the hall.
*As instructed by Odysseus, the women are to stay locked in a room.
*Odysseus alone is able to pass the bow test (he is still disguised as a beggar).
Death at the Palace, pg. 803

*Odysseus uses his bow to shoot and kill Antinous, the ringleader of the suitors.

*The other suitors are angry, not realizing that this "beggar" is their king returned home.

*Odysseus identifies himself to the crowd of suitors.

*Eurymachus speaks up and tells him the worst of the suitors has already been killed. He begs him to spare the rest of them.

*Odysseus does not accept, and he tells them to prepare to fight.
**Odysseus and Penelope**

*Penelope is unsure as to whether this is the true Odysseus or not.*

*Telemachus is angry with his mother that she doesn't immediately accept him.*

*Odysseus assures his son that it is OR for her to test him.*

*Her test—his knowledge of their sacred marriage bed.*

*She then fully accepts, and they reunite in love. ahhhhh :)*
Review for the Test
* epic poem / epic hero
* Odysseus' tragic flaw?
* What does the Cyclops offer Odysseus in return for the wine?
* Where did the Trojan War take place?
* What does Antinous throw at Odysseus?
* Epic hero qualities?
* Homeric simile?
* Homeric epithet?
* Athena is the goddess of ????
* Study all handouts / notes / questions