Book XVI Questions

1. Why is Eumaios so excited to see Telémackhos?
2. Upon what errand does Telémackhos send Eumaios?
3. What prompts Odysseus to reveal his identity to Telémackhos?
4. Why is Telémackhos frightened by his father’s appearance?
5. Whom does Odysseus assert will aid Telémackhos and him in his struggle against the suitors?
6. With what part of Odysseus’ plan does Telémackhos disagree?
7. How do the suitors learn of Telémackhos’ return?
8. What prompts the suitors to disagree with Antinoös’ proposal?
9. Of what does Eurýmakhos falsely reassure Penélopê?
10. What suggests to Eumaios that the suitors have returned from their failed ambush?

Book XIX Questions

1. What action is taken by Odysseus and Telémackhos after the suitors depart?

2. Who scorns Odysseus for the second time when she sees him in the great hall?

3. When does Odysseus’ persona claim to have entertained Odysseus in Crete?

4. How does Odysseus seem to authenticate his story?

5. What does he suggest about Odysseus’ homecoming?

6. Why does Eurýkleia feel sympathy for Odysseus’ persona?

7. How did Odysseus receive his name?

8. What inflicted him with the wound that formed his scar?

9. How is Odysseus represented in Penélopê’s dream?

10. How does she propose to choose her husband from among the suitors?

Book XXI

1. Why didn’t Odysseus take his bow with him to Troy?

2. What were the two parts of Penélopê’s proposed competition?

3. Why are the suitors surprised at Telémackhos’ ability to set up the axes?

4. Why does Telémackhos assert that he should take part in the competition?

5. What makes him fail?

6. What is Leodes’ lament after he fails to string the bow?

7. How does Antinoös try to simplify the competition after Leodes’ failure?

8. What most perturbs Eurýmakhos concerning his failure to string the bow?

9. Why is Eumaios initially unable to bring Odysseus the bow?

10. What does Odysseus do immediately before stringing the bow?

Book XXII

1. Which suitor is the first to taste Odysseus’ vengeance?

2. What offer is made by Eurýmakhos to stave off Odysseus’ attack?

3. How do the suitors begin obtaining weapons and armor?

4. How does Odysseus put a stop to this?

5. How do Eumaios and Philoítios imprison Mélanthios?

6. Why are the suitors’ spears unable to find their marks?

7. Why does Odysseus ignore Leodes’ plea?

8. Whom does he spare from the slaughter?

9. Whom do Odysseus’ men execute after destroying the suitors?

10. What does Odysseus use to sterilize his hall thoroughly?