

Homer (ca 750 BCE), *Iliad*, Book 1

Epic [tragic plot]

Quarrel in Camp --

Rage, Pride & Plan [Hero vs King]

Read Book 1 of the Iliad by Homer (Lattimore trans.).

MAKE a SAMPLE ANALYSIS: check the divisions & points shown below against what you find while you are reading:

Mark in the **margins** of your book the main divisions, places & names, & points of action & theme; **underline** main names & themes in the text:

FILL blanks in workbook with appropriate points.

Line Numbers MAIN POINTS to be MARKED: Who? Where? When? What? Why? How?

1-7: [Summing it up] Who prays **Whom** to tell about what? _____

Anger of whom? _____ **Pain** for whom? _____ **Plan** from whom? _____

Starting the story from **When?** _____

8-348: [About this QUARREL.] [MAIN DIVISION HEADS get written as here]

8-52 [Apollo plot]: *Immediate background of QUARREL: by the ships, on the shore, Agamemnon harshly rejects ransom for Chryseis, his war prize, offered by her father Chryses, Apollo's priest, who in turn persuades the god to plague the Achaians.*

53-304: *at the Assembly Ground--how the QUARREL gets going & gets out of hand.*

53-100: *on TENTH DAY of plague, Achilles calls ASSEMBLY, protects seer Kalchas who blames Agamemnon.*

101-120: *Agamemnon agrees to return Chryseis, but demands another prize.*

121-147: *Ach. proposes _____*

Agamemnon replies _____

148-171: *Achilleus reacts by _____*

172-187: *Agamemnon tells Ach. to go, but declares he will take _____*

188-222: *CLIMAX of QUARREL: _____*

223-244: *Achilleus' great oath: _____*

[245-303: *mediation attempted*]

245-284: *Nestor tries to reconcile what different roles in the army? _____*

285-303: *[what happens in these lines?] _____*

[304-348: *Immediate result of QUARREL: Agamemnon sends back Chryseis, takes Briseis.*]

305-317 [Apollo plot]: *[what happens?] _____*

318-348: *[what happens?] _____*

[348-429: *In Achilles' quarters. Appeal to his Mother to help get back his honor.*]

348-392: Achilles tells his side of the QUARREL to Thetis, his goddess Mother.

393-412: He asks that she get Zeus to help Trojans, so that Agamemnon will "recognize his madness" & honor Achilles.

413-429: [and then?] _____

430-487 [Apollo plot]: Odysseus restores Chryseis to her Father & placates Apollo with sacrifice

& drinking & singing [SYMPOSIUM].

[488-611: Achilles mopes in camp;

Thetis goes to Olympus & gets Zeus to PLAN to fulfill Achilles' wish.]

488-492: [?] _____

[493-611: [where? who? what? why? _____

493-527: [and then?] _____

528-600: [and so?] _____

600-611: drinking & singing again [SYMPOSIUM], this time by Apollo (cf. *430-487*, *8-52*), bedtime. _____

STUDY QUESTIONS: Based only on your reading in Book 1, write brief answers to the following questions [Some of which you have already asked about Thucydides]:

I. The Author.

- 1) Does the *Iliad* itself tell you anything about the name, family, & city of the author? _____
- 2) Does it tell you about motives for writing? _____
- 4) Does the *Iliad* itself claim any special Authority for its Author?: how does he know what he tells us?

- 4) Compare with Thucydides: any resemblances? [cite page & line numbers] _____

main differences? _____

II. The Subject of Book 1

- 1) WHAT [The Action]: Sum up what happens in the book: try to use no more than thirty words arranged in one sentence. _____

- 2) WHO are the two main human Characters? 1. _____ 2. _____
The three main divine characters? 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____
- 3) WHY is each of the two main human characters important:
(1) _____
(2) _____
b) Describe the main motives that drive each of the two:
(1) _____
(2) _____
c) How does each deviate from what he is normally expected to do?
(1) _____
(2) _____
- 4) WHO/WHAT/WHY: character in action:
 - a) How does the situation change, moment by moment, from line 121 to 244?

 - b) How does Achilles lie about his actions to his Mother? What does he change or leave out?

 - c) Who tries to mediate & why does mediation fail?

 - d) GODS: what is Zeus's plan? _____

Describe Apollo's roles at the beginning, middle & end of the book:

 - e) As the book ends, compare the mood in the Greek camp with the mood among the gods:

