

Virgil [70-19 BCE], *Aeneid*, Book 1

Epic -- tragic, historical, philosophical

Two Plans for World Empire --

African vs Roman Rule

Read *Aeneid* Book 1.

TO DO: FILL in BLANK spaces below & MARGINS of your book with main points.

LINE NUMBERS [Of the original poem: equivalents may vary in translations]

DATES

[1-33: Overall Thrust? _____] [MAIN DIVISION HEAD]

1-7: Main Themes? _____

NOTE: fate .. exile/flight .. anger .. city .. Latium .. Rome

As you read these introductory lines, what GENRE do they bring to mind? _____

Which themes are familiar from your previous reading in this GENRE? _____

Which themes are unexpected, even surprising, to find in a work of this GENRE? _____

8-11: WHAT is the main quality of this hero? _____

How does this compare with the qualities of other heroes we have seen? _____

12-22: WHO is angry & WHAT is the main reason? _____

What conflict in Roman history does this refer to? _____

23-33: WHAT are the other reasons for anger? _____

[34-222: JUNO'S PLAN: Storm & Shipwreck]

34-80: STORM -- where & how caused? _____

81-123: WHAT is our first view of the hero? _____

How does this portrait of the hero differ other images of heroes you have seen? _____

124-156: WHICH GOD intervenes & how is his action pictured? _____

Does the picture imply a democratic or an oligarchical outlook? _____

157-222: WHAT other hero do these adventures bring to mind? _____

[223-304: FATE'S PLAN Main Thrust? _____]

WHAT was the promise of Jove? _____

III years -- Aeneas in Latium

XXX years -- Ascanius Iulus (Iulus ≈ Ilium) founds Alba Longa

CCC years -- kings rule in Alba Longa

down to ca 750 BCE

Ilia recalls Ilium) mother of twins RoMulus & ReMus

WHAT is said to be the final revenge for the Trojan War? _____

HOW is Caesar supposed to be related to the Trojans? _____

[305-756: AFRICAN QUEEN -- AENEAS AGAPE]

305-417: WHAT are the positive qualities of Dido here? _____

418-493: WHAT most impresses Aeneas? _____

How do these impressions relate to his mission? _____

494-656: WHAT emotions does DIDO provoke in Aeneas? _____

WHAT does Dido promise Aeneas? _____

657-694: VENUS'S PLAN: Main Thrust? _____

WHAT does the name of 'Helen' bring to mind? _____

695-756: HOW does LOVE change Dido? _____

How does Dido's banquet resemble the one in Alcinous' palace in the Odyssey? _____

And how does this banquet differ from that one? _____

STUDY QUESTIONS: answer the following questions on the basis of your reading:

1. In a sentence, sum up the story of the poem as hinted in the beginning of this book: _____

a. **What does the story make you infer about the dramatic date of the poem?** _____

b. **And yet, how does the book also signal the date when the poem actually was written?** _____

2. Among your previous readings, which ones have been equally explicit in referring to events of the author's own time? _____

3. Consider the four main characters in the first book:

a. **who are they?** _____

b. **briefly sketch:** _____

characteristic actions of each: likeness to figures met before

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

4. What works of art are described in the book? _____

What importance do they have for the hero? _____

5. In what respects does Dido differ from other female figures that you have seen in your readings? _____

Yet what similarities does Virgil also draw? _____
