

Virgil [70-19 BCE], *Aeneid*, Book 12

*Epic -- tragic, historical, philosophical*

A New Achilles Found

Roman Rule on Force

**Read** *Aeneid* Book 12.

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

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LINE NUMBERS [Of the original poem: equivalents may vary from translation to translation]  
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[1-499: Main Thrust? \_\_\_\_\_ ]

1-133: \_\_\_\_\_

1-17: WHO is the center of attention here? \_\_\_\_\_

HOW does he exemplify traditional heroism? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

18-53: What does Latinus want? And what obtain? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Where have we seen such arguments & themes before? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

54-80: And the women? \_\_\_\_\_

Symptomos of passion? \_\_\_\_\_

81-133: Passions in Turnus? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

134-160: But Juno -- How does she size up the situation? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

161-215: Terms of agreement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

216-310: But what turn do things take? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

311-323: How is Aeneas shown "in character" here? \_\_\_\_\_

323-382: WHAT role does the god play? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

383-499: WHAT happens to Aeneas? \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT does he tell his son & why does he say it here? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

HOW has Aeneas' attitude changed by the end of the scene? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WHAT are we supposed to infer about the character of this hero?

\_\_\_\_\_

[500-790: Main Thrust? \_\_\_\_\_ ]

500-553: HOW is this action typically 'heroic'? \_\_\_\_\_

[554-611: Main Thrust? \_\_\_\_\_

554-592: WHAT plan does Venus suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

How might this plan seem untypical of Aeneas? \_\_\_\_\_

593-611: What scenes in epic does this recall? \_\_\_\_\_

612-96: Main Emotions Felt? \_\_\_\_\_

HOW does Turnus here resemble other heroes we have seen? \_\_\_\_\_

697-724: Finally? \_\_\_\_\_

725-790: \_\_\_\_\_

[791-952: \_\_\_\_\_ ]

791-842: WHAT strikes you as odd about the deal that gets struck? \_\_\_\_\_

843-886: How does this prepare for the close? \_\_\_\_\_

887-952: How does this fit Turnus' character as shown earlier? \_\_\_\_\_

*Daunus* .. *Anchises*:\_What other Fathers come to mind? \_\_\_\_\_

How does Aeneas resemble other heroes in similar moments? \_\_\_\_\_

Yet how is Aeneas different from those other heroes? \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. Thinking back over the story of the Aeneid as a whole, what was the one thing that remained to be told when this book began?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. There being only one thing to tell, what is there about the telling that makes this the longest of the Aeneid's twelve books? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. In the course of the action in book twelve, what contrasting traits of character emerge in Aeneas? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. In this respect, how does the figure of Aeneas differ from that of Turnus? \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Aeneas</u>	<u>Turnus</u>
<u>MOTIVES</u>	_____	_____

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<u>ACTIONS</u>	_____	_____
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. How do the traits of Aeneas in book twelve relate to [like? resemble?] / [unlike? differ?] the figure of Aeneas, i.e. his character and actions, as you recall it from earlier in the poem? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Does the figure of Turnus relate to any figures that appeared earlier in the poem? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Looking back, now, to a still wider context, how do the figures of Aeneas and Turnus relate [like? resemble?] / [differ? unlike?] to the main figures in other works you have read? \_\_\_\_\_

<u>WORK</u>	<u>Figure</u>	like? resemble?	differ? unlike?
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

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8. In the comparisons you made in question 7, what were the genres of the works you referred to? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. In your judgment, why did Virgil take the trouble to deal with these particular genres? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. In dealing with previous literature, what changes does Virgil make that you would call peculiarly Roman? \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Putting that another way, what has Virgil done to the old stories & heroes in order to interest an ordinary, garden-variety Roman? \_\_\_\_\_

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12. In what ways would the poem have interested Caesar Augustus? \_\_\_\_\_

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