

Group Choice

As a team, choose 1. Be ready to share with the rest of the class.

Letter to Penelope While Odysseus is on his difficult journey, Penelope is left at home in Ithaca to deal with her own troubles. Think about a time in which you've missed someone or felt left behind. What did you do to try to lift your sadness? Write a personal letter to Penelope as she is portrayed in "An Ancient Gesture." Share your own experience and offer her some advice on how to deal with her situation.

Siren Song In her poem "Siren Song," Margaret Atwood gives readers a new perspective on Homer's Sirens. Write an original Siren song, based on your own interpretation of these characters from Homer's epic. To begin, think about what you believe the Sirens might say to sailors as they pass by. Do you believe they enjoy their role, or do they regret their actions? Share your song with the rest of the class.

Point of View Rewrite In these poems, the writers have experimented with point of view. Think about a story, play, or poem that you have read and enjoyed. Then rewrite a small part of it from the point of view of a minor character, or from the point of view of a character whose feelings are unknown.

Group Epic Work in small groups to write an original epic about an exciting journey. Your journey should be inspired by the work of Homer, but it should contain characters and events from the modern world. To begin, hold a group brainstorming session to try to come up with interesting ideas. What kinds of adventures might take place in the modern world? Share your works with the rest of the class.