

# The Odyssey

## Study Questions – Book 21



### Content Questions

1. What contest does Athena inspire Penélopê to propose?
2. What is so special about Odysseus' bow?
3. What prize does Penélopê propose for the contest?
4. Who sets up the axes?
5. Who is the first person to try to string the bow? Does he succeed?
6. Identify Leodes.
7. What does Melanthius bring to try to help the suitors string the bow?
8. How does Odysseus prove to Eumaeus and Philoetius that he is their master?
9. How are the men convinced to let Odysseus try to string the bow?
10. Why does Penélopê leave the contest? What does she do?
11. What sign does Zeus send when the bow is strung?
12. How does the book end?

### Analytical Questions

1. How has Homer built up the expectations of his listeners for the slaughter that is about to take place?

