

Greeks I: A Trojan War Scorecard

The Achaians (Greeks)

The Trojans

Vital Gods/Goddesses

Hera
Athena
Zeus (somewhat)
Poseidon

Apollo
Aphrodite
Ares
Artemis

Leaders

Agamemnon

Priam

Soldiers and countrymen

Achilles
Ajax
Odysseus
Menelaus
Diomedes
Philoktetes
Neoptolemus
Nestor
Patroclus
Thersites

Hector
Sarpedon
Aeneas
Paris
Troilus
Deiphoebus
Memnon
Lyacoon
Pandaros

Women

Clytemnestra
Briseus
Chryseis - eventually becomes Cressida)
Penelope

Hecuba
Andromache
Helen (at this point)
Cassandra

Children

Electra
Iphigenia
Orestes
Telemachos

Astyanax
Iulus

Sub-nationalities

Myrmidons (Achilles's posse from Orchomenos)
Argives (from Argos)
Danaans

Dardanians
Lykians
Ilium (another name for Troy)

While you're reading, consider the following questions and jot down good examples or places where Homer indicates how he feels. This will help you on your essays.

Who or what determines the actions of men in Homer, i.e., what's Homer's view of causation? Think about whether or not you agree with Homer about this.

How does Homer view the gods? How do they seem either divine or not so godlike in Homer's works? How is this view similar to or different than the view of divinity in Judeo-Christian tradition? (The Old Testament is being composed and then written down at almost the exact same times as Homer's works.)

What is Homer's view of war? What's your evidence?

What does Homer think of the soldiers in this war? Which traits does he favor?

What can you tell about Greek culture from The Iliad? Consider the values you perceive with regard to physical things and ideas. What things keep turning up in the book?

What is weird about the way this is written? Do you have any theories about why it may be written this way? (All will be explained.)

Why are people (even those to whom it's not assigned) still reading this book about 2700 years after it was first composed, i.e., what is universal about it?