

The Odyssey: Book Five (Calypso) Answer on a separate sheet of paper... ☺

1. Odysseus, considered by the Greeks to be a hero, is described early on as ‘lion-hearted, valiant and resourceful.’ Contrast this image with the picture of Odysseus painted by Fagles on pages 157-159. Look in these pages, and elsewhere in the chapter, for words and actions that describe a very different kind of man, and record them.
2. What attitude does Hermes display towards Calypso? What attitude does Calypso display towards Hermes and the other male gods?
3. Describe Calypso and her home (see pages 154-155 in particular). Does she remind you of any character in *Gilgamesh*? If so, who? Why?
4. In Fagles’ text, Odysseus is described as an “unwilling lover”; explain what he means by this, and whether such a thing is possible.
5. How does Odysseus respond to Calypso’s offer of immortality (158-159)? Why?
6. How does Odysseus respond to Calypso’s offer to help him leave? Why?
7. How does Odysseus respond when Poseidon sends the storm? What does this response reveal about Odysseus’ character?