



**General Certificate of Education
June 2012**

Classical Civilisation 1021

Homer *Odyssey*

AS Unit 2B

Final

Mark Scheme

Mark schemes are prepared by the Principal Examiner and considered, together with the relevant questions, by a panel of subject teachers. This mark scheme includes any amendments made at the standardisation meeting attended by all examiners and is the scheme which was used by them in this examination. The standardisation meeting ensures that the mark scheme covers the students' responses to questions and that every examiner understands and applies it in the same correct way. As preparation for the standardisation meeting each examiner analyses a number of students' scripts: alternative answers not already covered by the mark scheme are discussed at the meeting and legislated for. If, after this meeting, examiners encounter unusual answers which have not been discussed at the meeting they are required to refer these to the Principal Examiner.

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INTRODUCTION

The information provided for each question is intended to be a guide to the kind of answers anticipated and is neither exhaustive nor prescriptive. **All appropriate responses should be given credit.**

Where Greek and Latin terms appear in the Mark Scheme, they do so generally for the sake of brevity. Knowledge of such terms, other than those given in the specification, is **not** required. However, when determining the level of response for a particular answer, examiners should take into account any instances where the student uses Greek or Latin terms effectively to aid the clarity and precision of the argument.

Information in round brackets is not essential to score the mark.

DESCRIPTIONS OF LEVELS OF RESPONSE

The following procedure must be adopted in marking by levels of response:

- read the answer as a whole
- work down through the descriptors to find the one which best fits
- determine the mark from the mark range associated with that level, judging whether the answer is nearer to the level above or to the one below.

Since answers will rarely match a descriptor in all respects, examiners must allow good performance in some aspects to compensate for shortcomings in other respects. Consequently, the level is determined by the 'best fit' rather than requiring every element of the descriptor to be matched. Examiners should aim to use the full range of levels and marks, taking into account the standard that can reasonably be expected of students after one year of study on the Advanced Subsidiary course and in the time available in the examination.

Students are **not** necessarily required to respond to all the bullet points in order to reach Level 5 or Level 4, but they should cover a sufficient range of material to answer the central aspects of the question.

QUALITY OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

The Quality of Written Communication will be taken into account in all questions worth 10 or more marks. This will include the student's ability

- to communicate clearly, ensuring that text is legible and that spelling, punctuation and grammar are accurate
- to select and use an appropriate form and style of writing, and
- to organise information clearly and coherently, using specialist vocabulary when appropriate.

LEVELS OF RESPONSE FOR QUESTIONS WORTH 10 MARKS

Level 4	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• accurate and relevant knowledge covering central aspects of the question• clear understanding of central aspects of the question• ability to put forward an argument which for the most part has an analytical and/or evaluative focus appropriate to the question and uses knowledge to support opinion• ability generally to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.	9-10
Level 3	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a range of accurate and relevant knowledge• some understanding of some aspects of the question• some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question• some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.	6-8
Level 2	Demonstrates either <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a range of accurate and relevant knowledge or <ul style="list-style-type: none">• some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them.	3-5
Level 1	Demonstrates either <ul style="list-style-type: none">• some patchy accurate and relevant knowledge or <ul style="list-style-type: none">• an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it.	1-2

LEVELS OF RESPONSE FOR QUESTIONS WORTH 20 MARKS

Level 5	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• well chosen accurate and relevant knowledge covering most of the central aspects of the question• coherent understanding of the central aspects of the question• ability to sustain an argument which<ul style="list-style-type: none">has an almost wholly analytical and/or evaluative focus,responds to the precise terms of the question,effectively links comment to detail,has a clear structurereaches a reasoned conclusionis clear and coherent, using appropriate, accurate language andmakes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate.	19-20
Level 4	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• generally adequate accurate and relevant knowledge covering many of the central aspects of the question• understanding of many of the central aspects of the question• ability to develop an argument which<ul style="list-style-type: none">has a generally analytical and/or evaluative focus,is broadly appropriate to the question,mainly supports comment with detail andhas a discernible structureis generally clear and coherent, using appropriate, generally accurate language andgenerally makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate.	14-18
Level 3	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• a range of accurate and relevant knowledge• some understanding of some aspects of the question• some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question• some ability to structure a response using appropriate language, although with some faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar• some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate.	9-13
Level 2	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• either a range of accurate and relevant knowledge• or some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them• and sufficient clarity, although there may be more widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.	5-8
Level 1	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• either some patchy accurate and relevant knowledge• or an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it• and little clarity; there may be widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar.	1-4

LEVELS OF RESPONSE FOR QUESTIONS WORTH 30 MARKS

Level 5	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • well chosen accurate and relevant knowledge covering most of the central aspects of the question • coherent understanding of the central aspects of the question • ability to sustain an argument which <ul style="list-style-type: none"> has an almost wholly analytical and/or evaluative focus, responds to the precise terms of the question, effectively links comment to detail, has a clear structure reaches a reasoned conclusion is clear and coherent, using appropriate, accurate language and makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate. 	27-30
Level 4	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • generally adequate accurate and relevant knowledge covering many of the central aspects of the question • understanding of many of the central aspects of the question • ability to develop an argument which <ul style="list-style-type: none"> has a generally analytical and/or evaluative focus, is broadly appropriate to the question, mainly supports comment with detail has a discernible structure is generally clear and coherent, using appropriate, generally accurate language and generally makes use of specialist vocabulary when appropriate. 	20-26
Level 3	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of accurate and relevant knowledge • some understanding of some aspects of the question • some evidence of analysis and/or evaluation appropriate to the question • some ability to structure a response using appropriate language, although with some faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar • some ability to use specialist vocabulary when appropriate. 	13-19
Level 2	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • either a range of accurate and relevant knowledge • or some relevant opinions with inadequate accurate knowledge to support them • and writes with sufficient clarity, although there may be more widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar. 	7-12
Level 1	Demonstrates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • either some patchy accurate and relevant knowledge • or an occasional attempt to make a relevant comment with no accurate knowledge to support it • and little clarity; there may be widespread faults of spelling, punctuation and grammar. 	1-6

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Mark Scheme
Unit 2B Homer Odyssey

Section 1

Option A

- 01 *How did Athene help Odysseus reach Alcinous' palace after he left Nausicaa? Give three details.***

Three from: listened to him in her sacred grove (1) / although did not intervene yet (1) / later enveloped him in mist (1) / spoke to him in mortal form **or** young girl (1) / warned him re poor attitude of locals to visitors (1) / led him to palace (1) / told him to go to Queen (Arete) first (1) / spoke of Arete's wisdom to him (1)

(3 marks)

- 02 *Which event does Odysseus take part in during the games Alcinous holds and who helps him?***

Discus (1) **and** Athene (1)

(2 marks)

- 03 *How effective are the techniques Homer uses in this passage to emphasise the wealth and beauty of Alcinous' palace?***

Discussion might include: image of radiance like sun & moon (beauty); 'bronze' and 'frieze of dark-blue enamel' (beauty & wealth); 'well-built mansion' (wealth); 'gold' .. 'silver' .. 'bronze' of doorway (wealth & beauty); repetition of 'gold' & 'silver' of lintel & handle; credit for mentioning degree of detail here; yet more 'gold' & 'silver' of dogs (credit for beauty of dogs & wealth needed to make these); made by a god (Hephaestus) suggests Alcinous is man of standing & wealth; number of chairs & 'delicately woven cover' (beauty); quantity of food & wine (wealth); final use of 'gold' in most emphatic use (statues of boys – suggestion of GREAT wealth); picture of boys holding torches (beauty as well as functionality).

(10 marks)

- 04 *How important are Nausicaa and Arete to the plot and themes of the Odyssey? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the Odyssey that you have read.***

You might include discussion of

- ***the help they give to Odysseus***
- ***the hospitality they offer***
- ***relationships between men and women***
- ***relationships between gods and humans***
- ***the positions of Nausicaa and Arete in society.***

Arguments suggesting they **are** important might include the following:

- on arrival on Phaeacia Odysseus is in a desperate state ravaged by the sea, exhausted, in a potentially dangerous situation and unaware of his surroundings. Nausicaa and Arete are both instrumental in his recovering from this unpromising start; Nausicaa is present throughout Odysseus' stay at the palace and before he leaves he thanks her 'you lady, who gave me back my life', reminding us of her importance.

- Nausicaa's response to the apparition of the naked Odysseus is one of courage and strong character; although pleased by his flattery she replies sensibly, showing an awareness of the importance of offering good *xenia*; she sensitively organizes bathing facilities, then intersperses good advice with coherent directions to the palace, without losing sight of the need to preserve her reputation; this is an impressive appearance suggesting Homer meant Nausicaa to be remembered, as well as important assistance to Odysseus
- Odysseus is told by Nausicaa to approach Arete first upon reaching the palace; she suggests that *her* approval is the key to his reaching home; Athene personally reinforces this message; he does so and is rewarded with good *xenia* which eventually sees his return to Ithaca accomplished; Arete therefore plays a vital role in the story, as well as adding an imposing character to the poem; she is first to ask Odysseus who he is; she later arranges a bath for him and packs the Phaeacian presents in a box, adding a cloak & tunic as gifts of her own
- Nausicaa is specially chosen by Athene to be the one to help Odysseus on his way; she is a fully-developed character adding interest and humanity to the story; Athene only has to put the (natural) desire into Nausicaa to go to the shore and upon waking she uses her persuasive nature to get permission from her father; the image of her as Artemis suggests a god-like beauty & authority; Arete too is given Athene's 'seal of approval'
- the parts played by both Nausicaa and Arete within the royal family and life of the palace illuminate the position of women in contemporary society. Arete in particular has more prominence than one would expect from a 'mere woman'. Similarly Nausicaa is a self-willed daughter, allowed out on her own.

Arguments suggesting they **are not important** might include the following:

- Odysseus would manage quite well without either of them; the scene on the beach provides a minor diversion for Odysseus, allowing him to amuse himself with a pretty girl; none of the help or information she offers him is crucial – it may speed things up a little but he would have reached the palace with or without Nausicaa's help; she is depicted as a rather silly young girl; she is not allowed to play any prominent role in the events within the palace; apart from a perfunctory goodbye, she is lost to view and basically forgotten after Book 6.
- the introduction given to Arete by Nausicaa and Athene suggests she will be important, but little evidence is offered to back up their claims; once Odysseus has supplicated Arete the spotlight leaves her in favour of her husband and never really returns; she appears once or twice in the palace carrying out Alcinous' commands but cannot be said to play any sort of leading role
- Odysseus' actions elsewhere in the Odyssey suggest he would be able to go on from here without the two women (with Athene's help if necessary) to deal with any likely problems from the Phaeacians
- Athene is Odysseus' crucial champion both in his reaching Phaeacia and in his negotiating of his onward journey; Nausicaa is simply an agent employed by Athene to ease Odysseus' waking up and reorientation; Athene cruelly plies her with a vision of marriage which cannot come true in this situation and uses her for a very minor role; Arete seems even less important in Athene's eyes
- neither woman appears to play any really significant part in the life of the palace; both remain essentially in the background, performing minor 'women's roles'.

Apply Levels of Response at beginning of Mark Scheme.

(20 marks)

Option B

- 05** *What was the ‘infallible proof’ (line 2) that Odysseus had just given Penelope to convince her of his identity? Give three details.*

Three from: the bed could not be moved (1) as he had built it himself (1) / round an (olive-)tree (1) / in the courtyard (1) /; the tree was long-leaved (1) / and thick-trunked (1); the tree formed one of the bed-posts (1) / he roofed the room himself (1) / decorated it with gold / silver / ivory (1) / and purple straps (across the frame) (1) / only Odysseus and Penelope knew about this (1)

(3 marks)

- 06** *Who was Helen’s ‘foreign lover’ (line 10) and to which city did he take her?*

Paris / Alexandros / Prince of Troy / Son of Trojan king (1) and Troy / Ilium (1)

(2 marks)

- 07** *How effectively in this passage does Homer portray the character of Penelope and her feelings for Odysseus?*

Discussion might include: emphatic initial picture in ‘knees began to tremble’ & ‘heart melted’ (strong feelings – but stock female response?); ‘bursting into tears’ & ‘ran up to ...’ (stress feelings); strong initial actions conclude with ‘threw her arms’ and ‘kissed his head’ all showing her care, delight at his return etc.; use of first person – starts with his name; assumes subservient position (‘do not be angry ...’); demonstrates respect for gods (‘all our unhappiness ...’); move from seeking forgiveness to offering reassurance (‘But don’t be cross ...’ to ‘For I have always had ...’); compares herself favourably to Helen (‘wicked’ & ‘selfish’ – 2 things Penelope is not; regularly compared to Helen throughout poem), but shows essential goodness as excuses Helen again by reference to gods; finishes by stressing togetherness with Odysseus (‘her woes and **ours**’).

(10 marks)

- 08** *How important is Penelope to the plot and themes of the Odyssey? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the Odyssey that you have read.*

You might include discussion of

- *Penelope’s importance to Odysseus*
- *her actions as the story proceeds*
- *the hospitality she offers*
- *relationships between men and women*
- *relationships between gods and humans*
- *the end of the Odyssey.*

Arguments suggesting Penelope’s importance might include:

- Penelope is mentioned at the very beginning of the Odyssey as Odysseus’ motive for trying to return home, so establishing her importance; our first meeting with Penelope later in Book 1 confirms this as she weeps for her lost husband; the Suitors’ comments confirm that she is the prize they too are seeking; in Book 5 Odysseus turns down the offer of immortality and marriage to a goddess as he prefers to take his chances trying to return to Penelope; although she remains largely in the background during his journeys this makes it clear that she is always there (confirmed by Agamemnon’s reminder of her qualities in Hades and Odysseus’ talk with Anticleia there)
- although Odysseus remains unknown to her upon his return to the palace, she holds

conversations with ‘the tramp’ which reflect her wisdom and goodness; she tells him of her trick to keep the Suitors at bay and offers this (apparently worthless) beggar fine *xenia*; Homer describes her in glowing terms (comparing her to Artemis & Aphrodite); although kept in the dark about the stranger she is clever enough to suspect something is odd; she comes up with the test involving the axes; unwittingly she helps set up the Suitors for their destruction; by obeying her son’s instruction to retire she acknowledges his growth to manhood as a good mother should

- the first thing Eumaeus tells Odysseus when he reaches his hut on Ithaca is how good a woman Penelope is; likewise when Telemachus joins them on his return from his journey, his first action is to send Eumaeus to tell Penelope of his safe return; although not seen she is always present in the background, being saved for the final scenes
- Book 23 is the climax to the poem; here Odysseus & Penelope emerge as equals, her craftiness matching his own in the ‘bed’ test; their reunion is described in detail; Athene even slows down time for them; credit for details of imagery of this section.

Arguments suggesting relative **lack of importance** of Penelope might include the following:

- the focus of Books 5-12 is totally on Odysseus; Penelope is mentioned a few times in passing but clearly it is the skill of Odysseus (and his key relationship with Athene) that is important; Penelope may be the wife in waiting but in such a male-dominated society Telemachus is a more important goal for Odysseus to keep in mind;
- Penelope is seen in Book 1 only through the eyes of men; she is the ‘prize’ sought by Odysseus and the Suitors; when Penelope briefly appears (in tears) she is abruptly dismissed by her son; when Odysseus arrives in Ithaca the focus is never upon Penelope; even at the return of Telemachus she is only mentioned in passing; no attempt is made by husband and son to involve her in the initial planning (or even to let her know her husband is alive); in the palace they keep her totally in the dark about the plot to kill the Suitors; when she attempts to involve herself in the contest to find her a husband she is abruptly dismissed to her room by Telemachus
- although in a sense Penelope offers *xenia* to the Suitors, she is simply reacting to a fait-accompli; she makes no move to insist that the Suitors obey the ‘rules’, deferring to Telemachus who is not yet man enough to stand up to them
- the gods pay little heed to Penelope; when Athene visits the palace in Book 1 her dealings are only with Telemachus; likewise in the later books she seems to be no part of Athene’s plans; Odysseus even has to apologise to Calypso in Book 5 for preferring a mortal woman to her
- having played no part in the fight she is allowed to know finally that her husband has returned before he turns to sorting out the problem of dealing with the aftermath of the Suitors’ deaths which (in Book 24) forms the end of the poem.

Apply Levels of Response at beginning of Mark Scheme.

(20 marks)

Section 2

Option C

- 09 **To what extent do Odysseus' tales of his wanderings in Books 9-12 add to your enjoyment of the *Odyssey* as a whole and your understanding of its themes? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the *Odyssey* that you have read.**

You might include discussion of

- **where, when and why he tells these stories**
- **how entertaining the stories are in themselves**
- **what the stories show about Odysseus' character and abilities**
- **any general themes that the stories illustrate**
- **the immortals in these books.**

Arguments that the tales **do add** to our enjoyment and understanding might include the following:

- Odysseus is in Phaeacia receiving excellent *xenia* from Alcinous during a pause in his travels from Calypso's island to Ithaca; the tales are in one sense simply Odysseus' contribution to his side of the *xenia*; they must be good as what he has received up to this point far outweighs what he has given in return; from Homer's point of view using the 'flashback' technique adds variety to the poem
- the tales may be seen as the most entertaining aspect of the poem; nowhere else in the poem is there such a mix of the normal and the fantastic; here alone we get so much direct interplay between mortals and immortals; characters such as Circe, Polyphemus & Aeolus are entertaining in themselves, while the voyage to Hades may be seen to represent man's worst nightmares: Odysseus faces death and survives; credit for supporting detail
- the reader having recently met Odysseus, this set of flashbacks illustrates how far he has come to reach this point; there is a degree of progression in his character from the thoughtless sacker of the Ciconians to the fearless survivor of Hades, yet a fallibility alongside the genius – failing to provide leadership to his crew at crucial moments (Laestrygonians; final words to Polyphemus, sleeping while the crew opened the bag of winds; letting them eat the cattle etc.)
- the stories have a simplicity and directness that give clear messages: good usually triumphs over evil; good *xenia* brings rewards, bad *xenia* brings punishments; total respect for the gods is vital, even those against you etc.; man can face and overcome the greatest monsters – even death
- they give us a chance to see Odysseus largely depending on himself; in key passages (e.g. Cyclops, Hades, after the storm) he receives no help from the immortals (apart from Hermes in the Circe episode); the portrayal of Zeus dealing with Hyperion, plus the explanation for Poseidon's enmity via the Cyclops story add to our understanding of how small humankind is seen as being by the gods; we also meet a host of fascinating minor immortals such as Aeolus, Scylla & Charybdis etc.

Arguments that the tales **do not add** much to our enjoyment and understanding might include the following:

- having reached Phaeacia, Odysseus is set up for a quick return to Ithaca and a chance to sort out the Suitors; spending four books describing (unlikely) tales which do not progress the story slows things down unacceptably; there is more than a suggestion, given the odd nature of these tales compared to the rest of the *Odyssey*, that Odysseus is 'making them up' (hardly good *xenia*?)

- while possibly entertaining in themselves these stories are looking backwards so lack any real tension (Odysseus must have survived); unlike the other books the elements of fantasy are so prevalent here as to render the tales absurd, thus taking away from Odysseus' apparent feats of daring
- Odysseus makes so many mistakes according to these stories that his reputation is hardly enhanced by them; he fails to make his men leave the island of the Ciconians, gives his name to Polyphemus, fails to look after Aeolus' present, lets his fleet be destroyed by the Laestrygonians etc.; losing **all** his men hardly adds to his kudos
- the over-simple nature of these stories, added to their implausibility, makes it difficult to take them seriously or see any important 'moral messages' beyond the blindingly obvious; in a sense they detract from the subtle moral points made elsewhere in the poem
- likewise the gods come out of it with little credit; Zeus seems more interested in keeping the peace on Olympus than seeing fair play down on earth; Poseidon's desire to avenge his son is all too human, given the massive failings displayed by that son; all in all the gods do not contribute much positive to Odysseus' progress; that is left to the extremely unbelievable minor immortals.

Apply Levels of Response at beginning of Mark Scheme.

(30 marks)

Option D

- 10** *To what extent do fate and the gods bring about Odysseus' victory over the Suitors and to what extent is it due to other factors? Give reasons for your answer and refer to the books of the Odyssey you have read.*

You might include discussion of

- *the nature of fate in the Odyssey*
- *the relationship between Zeus and fate*
- *interventions by other immortals*
- *the characters and abilities of the Suitors*
- *interventions by other mortals*
- *what Odysseus does on his own initiative.*

Arguments that **fate and the gods** do bring about the victory might include the following:

- by its very definition fate causes the ending as that is its very nature; Zeus seems content to sit back firm in the knowledge that all will be well (he suggests as much as early as Book 5 to Hermes 'Odysseus must now set out for home ... this is how it is ordained'); the interest in the story is how Zeus (as agent of fate) uses (or works against) the other gods to ensure that fate has its way, and even allows anti-Odysseus characters to do their worst (e.g. Poseidon & the immortals of Books 9-12)
- only Athene of the immortals influences this stage of the story, but her influence is complete: she tells him how to reach the palace, assures him of her support and that he will succeed, disguises him and watches over him throughout; she has provided (and educated) Telemachus as support, not to mention sending him to Eumaeus' hut for a base; when the fight is in the balance she steps in, reassures Odysseus and even deflects the Suitors' weapons; 'double motivation' sees the divine & human wills as being inextricably entwined
- the number of Suitors would be more than sufficient to overcome Odysseus and his small body of human helpers if they were given a fair chance; whether it was simply 'fated' for them to die or whether their own abuse of *xenia* (credit for details) was so offensive to Zeus and/or the gods in general, their deaths were clearly dictated from

beyond the human world; Homer makes this clear by bringing Athene into the fight at a crucial time

- the humans who help Odysseus consist of only his (still young) son who is as much a hindrance given his failure to secure the weapon cupboard, and his (elderly) swineherd Eumaeus, willing but inexperienced in fighting; these two play very much a minor supporting role, offering little to make up the great discrepancy in numbers: basically they are irrelevant
- Odysseus makes some errors of judgement in his preparations (e.g. not foreseeing the Melanthius problem) which could have been fatal in a 'fair play' situation; everything that he has done to reach this position has been dictated to him by Athene earlier (e.g. Book 13) and as soon as he runs into trouble during the fight she reappears; following the initial killing of Antinous Odysseus gives up the element of surprise by making a speech to the Suitors; only then does he send Telemachus to bring armour/weapons etc. and allows Melanthius to outsmart him by arming the Suitors; when 'Mentor' turns up to help Odysseus wavers and needs to be shouted at to continue; at this point he may well have been killed had the Suitors' weapons not been made to miss

Arguments that **other factors** are primarily responsible for the victory might include the following:

- although it is made clear that fate requires Odysseus to return home, it is noticeable that fate is mentioned less in the later books when the focus is on what Odysseus does for himself; similarly Zeus seems to take a back seat throughout, stressing Odysseus' own merits even when talking about fate ('he is not only the wisest man alive but has been the most generous in his offerings to the immortals' – Book 1); there is a woolly area between Zeus as agent of fate & Zeus as rewarder of Odysseus for his qualities; it never feels as if Odysseus' success over the Suitors is a done deal; also, if 'fate' is understood as effectively meaning you 'get what you deserve' Odysseus makes his own 'fate' (as do the other leading characters); fate can also be seen as a device to express constraints on authorial freedom because of the known outcomes of the usual version of the Trojan War myth
- although Athene appears to take a prominent role, there are times when she steps back and allows Odysseus to fend for himself; besides, by declaring Odysseus as 'the wisest of men', Homer clearly intends 'Athene', in part at least, to stand for those qualities of wisdom which Odysseus displays throughout the latter section of the poem; hence the support 'from the gods' may represent support from Odysseus' own human capabilities
- the Suitors, despite their numbers, are an inadequate opposition; the suggestion is that their characters are rendered so dissolute by their behaviour that they are ripe for the taking; their own weaknesses therefore are a major factor in Odysseus' victory; besides, being evil in an absolute sense (by actively disregarding *xenia* even to the point of plotting to murder their young host and equally by having overstayed their welcome and vastly exceeded any fair allowance of food & drink) they have doomed themselves (through human faults, rather than by being 'fated' to die)
- Odysseus may have few human supporters but they are totally loyal and play their supporting roles to the letter; Telemachus is instrumental in setting up the trap and kills a number of Suitors in the fight; ditto Eumaeus who has supported him during the planning stages and 'does his bit' in the battle; the help from these two and others (e.g. Eurycleia keeping the secret) is a major cause in the victory over the Suitors
- Odysseus may be guided by Athene in his mode of returning to the palace but it is Penelope, not Athene who formulates the plan involving the axes; not only does Odysseus patiently endure the insults to himself as a beggar, but he checks his anger at the abuse of his palace until the moment is right; surrounding himself with only people he can trust he sees that all is right to gain the advantage of surprise; he wastes no time, slays the leaders first and is thus able to take on the confused pack one at a time;

Athene's help comes only in the latter stages and reflects largely only what Mentor (her disguise) could do; amid the panic of the Suitors Odysseus keeps calm and so brings a sense of inevitability to the outcome.

Apply Levels of Response at beginning of Mark Scheme.

(30 marks)

Assessment Objectives Grid
Unit 2B Homer *Odyssey*

Section 1

Either
Option A

	AO1	AO2	TOTAL
01	3	0	3
02	2	0	2
03	5	5	10
04	8	12	20
TOTAL	18	17	35

Or
Option B

	AO1	AO2	TOTAL
05	3	0	3
06	2	0	2
07	5	5	10
08	8	12	20
TOTAL	18	17	35

Section 2

Either
Option C

	AO1	AO2	TOTAL
09	12	18	30
TOTAL	12	18	30

Or
Option D

	AO1	AO2	TOTAL
10	12	18	30
TOTAL	12	18	30

OVERALL

	AO1	AO2	TOTAL
TOTAL	30	35	65
%	46%	54%	100%

UMS conversion calculator www.aqa.org.uk/umsconversion