Odyssey Vocabulary List

Words to know, grouped by part of the story, with what each one means.

The Wooden Horse

clever: quick to think up smart plans
plain: a wide, flat stretch of land
feast: a big, happy meal with lots of food
secret: hidden, so other people do not know
prow: the pointed front end of a ship

The Lotus-Eaters and the Cyclops' Cave

puzzled: mixed up and not sure what something means
dragged: pulled someone along who did not want to go
host: a person who has visitors at their home
crept: moved slowly and quietly
trapped: stuck with no way to get out

"Nobody" Escapes

stake: a thick stick with a sharp point
stumbled: tripped and almost fell while walking
ram: a male sheep
curse: a wish for bad things to happen to someone
boast: brag about how great you are

The Bag of Winds

deck: the flat floor on top of a ship
steady: even, without stopping or changing
harbor: a calm bay where ships can stay safe
boulders: very big rocks
wept: cried

Circe

potion: a drink that does magic
wand: a thin stick used for magic
resist: fight against something and not give in
oath: a very serious promise
warnings: words that tell about danger ahead

The Sirens, Scylla and Charybdis

mast: the tall pole that holds up a ship's sail
whirlpool: water that spins fast and pulls things down
armor: hard metal clothes that keep a fighter safe
snatched: grabbed fast and taken away
strait: a narrow strip of sea between two lands

The Sun's Cattle

grazed: ate grass in a field
starving: very sick and weak from having no food
argue: say that you do not agree
plank: a long, flat board of wood
wreck: what is left of a smashed ship

Calypso's Island

nursed: took care of someone who was sick or hurt
loyal: true to someone, no matter what
suitors: men who want to marry a woman
weaving: making cloth by crossing threads
fate: what is meant to happen

The Beggar in the Hall

disguise: a new look so that no one knows who you are
wrinkled: full of small lines and folds
beggar: a poor person who asks others for food
sniffed: smelled with short, quick breaths
contest: a test to find out who is best

The Bow and the Bed

archer: someone who shoots with a bow and arrows
jeered: laughed and yelled at someone in a mean way
plucked: pulled a string and let it go
silent: with no sound at all
fierce: wild, strong and full of fight