

TLP008 Adventure

The Odyssey

The Odyssey

The Odyssey was written by an Ancient Greek poet called Homer around 750 BCE.

It follows the central character, Odysseus, as he struggles to get home following ten years of fighting in the Trojan War.

In this presentation you will learn about some of the places Odysseus visited and the difficulties he faced.

You will also see how Odysseus' journey compares to a modern videogame.

The Odyssey

Watch a short video
about The Odyssey



in depth



simple

Now answer these questions:

- Who is the main character in The Odyssey?
- How many of his men returned home?
- How long was he away from his home in Ithaca?

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Odysseus

None

10 years Trojan War + 10 years travelling = 20 years

The Odyssey

Odysseus' Ten Year Journey Home

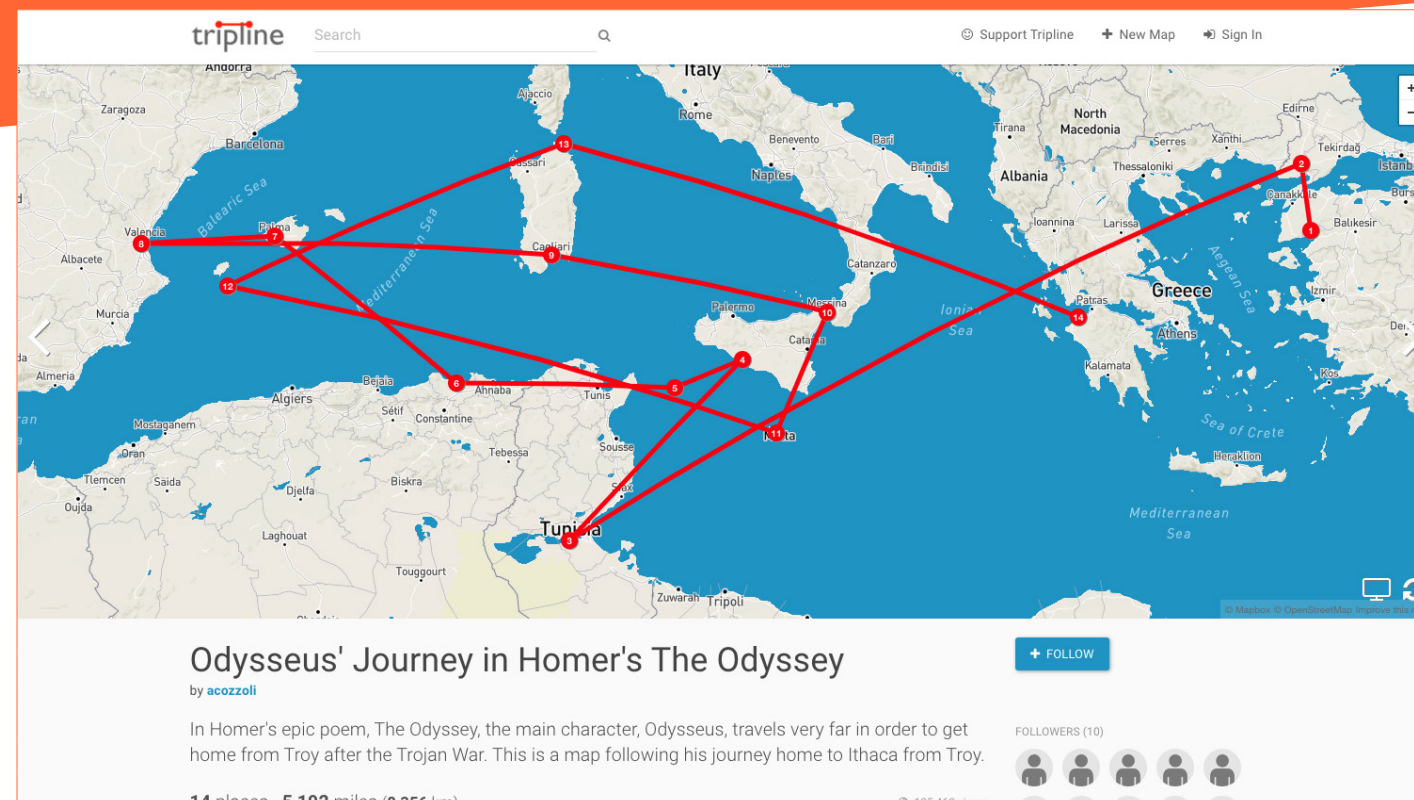
After fighting the Trojan War for ten years, Odysseus began his long journey home. Using an accurate map you might like to calculate just how far he travelled.



The Odyssey

According to the website, tripline
Odysseus' ten year journey
home was **5,192** miles.
The distance from Troy to
Ithaka was only **650** miles.

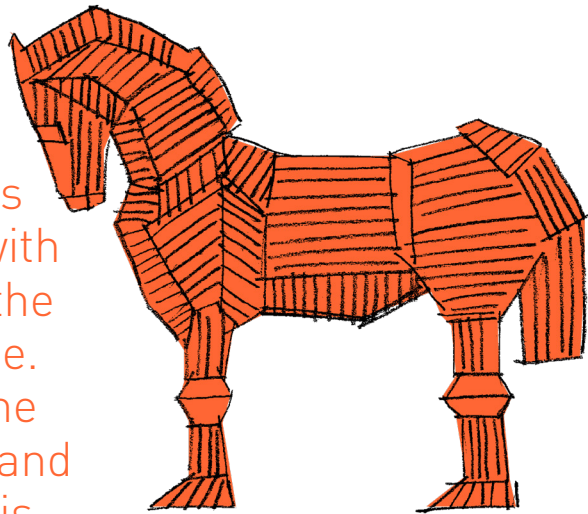
CHALLENGE:
calculate the
distance travelled
in nautical miles
and km.



The Odyssey

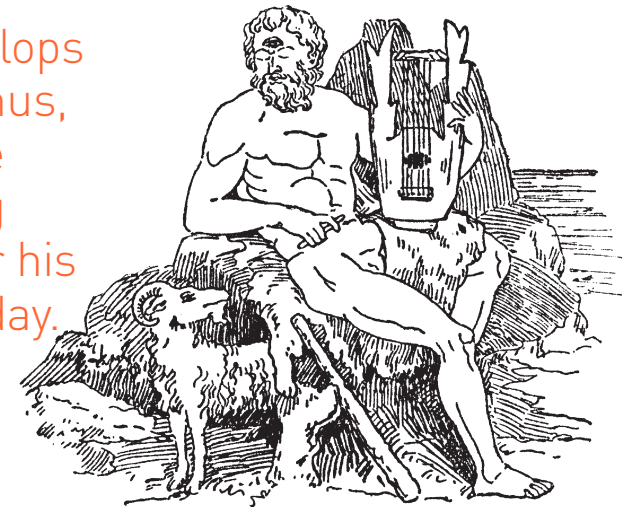
What happened to Odysseus on his way home?
Find the following on the map:

1 Odysseus comes up with the idea of the Trojan Horse. This ends the Trojan War and he begins his



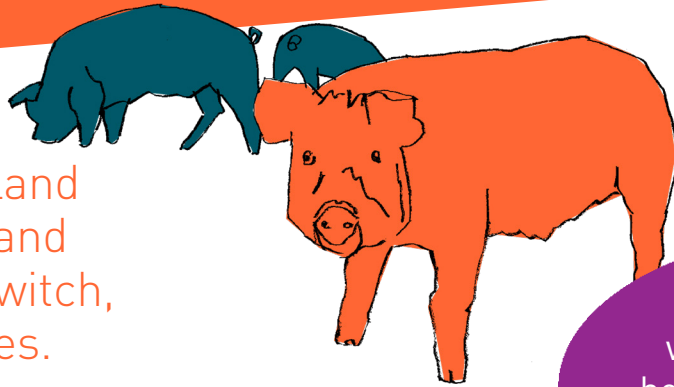
2 In Africa, Odysseus and his men encounter the Lotus Eaters. These people give the men fruit which makes them forget about their home and makes them want to stay. Odysseus has to drag the men back to the ships and chain them like prisoners until the effects wear off.

3 They land on an island inhabited by cyclops - one-eyed giants. One of these, Polyphemus, traps the men in a cave and devours some of them. Odysseus has the idea of blinding Polyphemus and escaping by hiding under his sheep, which are let out of the cave each day. Unfortunately, Polyphemus' father is Poseidon, the god of the sea. This causes lots of problems for Odysseus later on.



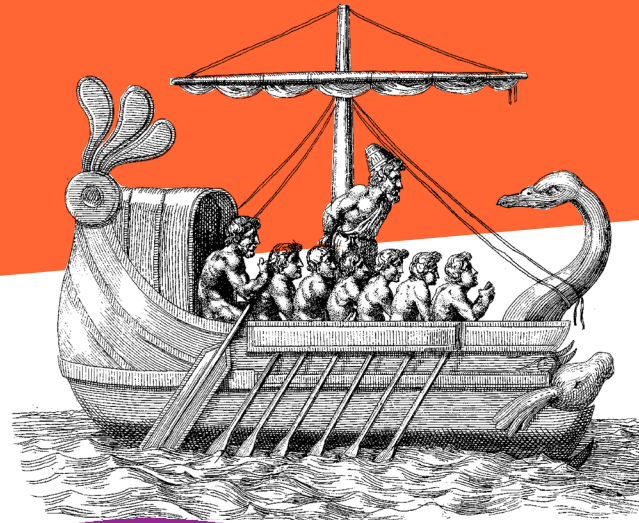
The Odyssey

- 4 They land on an island where a witch, Circe, lives. She puts a spell on the food she gives the men and they turn into pigs.



- 6 They have to sail between Scylla - a monster with tentacles and six heads who devours six of the men - and Charybdis - a violent whirlpool.

This is where we get the idiom, stuck between a rock and a hard place, from. Can you work out what it means?



- 5 They travel near a land where sirens live. These call to sailors so they wreck their boats on the rocks. Odysseus makes his men put wax in their ears so they cannot hear the sirens' song. He is tied to the mast of his ship so that he can experience their song, but not be in danger.

- 7 By the time Odysseus gets home to Ithaca, all his men are dead.



The Odyssey

Put these
events in the
right order.

Odysseus blinds the cyclops, Polyphemus

They have to make their way between the monster, Scylla, and the whirlpool, Charybdis

Odysseus and his men encounter the sirens

Odysseus has to drag his men away from the Lotus Eaters

Odysseus and his men leave Troy

The witch Circe turns the men into pigs

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Who always
solves the
problems that
the men face?
Who causes the
problems?

The Odyssey - optional tasks

Learn key vocabulary for The Odyssey

odyssey witch Homer Poseidon Charybdis Greek
Polyphemus sirens Circe cyclops perseverance
Ithaka sailor Lotus Eaters Odysseus
trial Scylla giant hero Troy Trojan War
violent monster myth cunning challenge
determination whirlpool danger

The Odyssey - optional tasks

Write a newspaper article about one of the events that happened to Odysseus and his men

CHALLENGE: include bias in your news story:

- celebrate Odysseus
- criticise Odysseus - write from the perspective of those he deceives or hurts

For guidance
on writing news
articles and
a range of
support materials:
HLP007 Missions

The Odyssey

The Odyssey is a journey that presents Odysseus with a lot of difficulties he has to overcome.

As well as his skills as a fighter, Odysseus has to have other skills to overcome these difficulties.

These life skills are called: **Intrapersonal Skills.**

The Odyssey

Link the following intrapersonal skills to the correct definition:

	Intrapersonal Skill	Definition
a	perseverance	to make or invent something original or imaginative
b	courage	finding a solution to a difficulty
c	resilience	the power of continuing to do something in spite of difficulties
d	problem solving	the ability to overcome fear
e	patience	the ability to cope when things go wrong
f	creativity	the ability to wait

Videogames require similar intrapersonal skills. Think of times when you have had to use these skills when gaming.

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Intrapersonal Skills in The Odyssey

Complete this table. You can use the same intrapersonal skill more than once.

Event	What happened...	Intrapersonal Skill	Explanation: <i>I chose this intrapersonal skill because...</i>
Odysseus leaves Troy	<i>Odysseus came up with a plan to end the Trojan War - the Trojan Horse</i>	<i>problem solving creativity</i>	<i>The Greek army couldn't get passed the city walls of Troy. Odysseus solved the problem by thinking creatively and hiding soldiers inside a giant horse that the Trojans thought was a gift.</i>
The Lotus Eaters			
Cyclops			
Circe			
The Sirens			
Scylla and Charybdis			

The Odyssey

The Odyssey is a journey that presents Odysseus with a lot of difficulties he has to overcome.

Videogames can also be seen as journeys that present both the players and the characters in the games with a variety of difficulties that require intrapersonal skills to overcome.

Think of some examples of when you have used intrapersonal skills when playing a videogame.