

## Traits of Odysseus

Use this graphic organizer to record how Odysseus responds when dealing with each monster below. Refer back to the text and use specific textual evidence for the first four rows. Then, identify character traits Odysseus shows when dealing with each monster.

Odysseus	Sirens	Scylla	Charybdis
1) Statement & Thoughts	He hears the Sirens' lovely voices and tried to tell his crew to untie him. After they successfully pass the Sirens he uses the phrase "faithful company" to describe his crew and how they helped him against the Sirens.	He decides to not tell the crew anything about Scylla since it would freak them out and they would be so scared they would abandon their stations and the ship would go out of control, likely killing everyone. He knew this "monster of the grey rock" harbored "torment for my friends." Around line 190 he describes seeing six of his "best men" being grabbed and eaten by Scylla. At the end of this excerpt, he says that Scylla reached for him. He also says he felt "deathly pity" for his men that were killed.	When his men first hear the roaring white water of Charybdis, they freak out and quit rowing and the ship starts to go out of control. He tries to calm them, to "put his heart into them" by standing over them and gently trying to calm them. He reminds them they have faced previous dangers and monsters and he kept his nerve and found a way out. He tells them he will get them through this trial. He urges them to obey his orders so they can survive. At line 185, Odysseus describes his crew's fear of being sucked into the whirlpool created by Charybdis.
2) Actions	He knew the Sirens would be powerful enchantresses so he prepared in advance by putting wax in his crew's ears so they would not fall prey to the Sirens' singing. He also had his crew tie him up so he could not jump overboard when he heard their singing. The crew held him still as he struggled to free himself when two of the Sirens began to sing.	He ties on his cuirass and takes up two heavy spears, heading to the foredeck of the ship waiting to see Scylla. He does not act afraid when he believes the monster was reaching for him. At the end of the excerpt, after six of his men were eaten by Scylla, they continue to row onward and have survived this part of their journey home.	He directs them how to steer the ship through the narrow channel, between Scylla and Charybdis. The confidence demonstrated in his orders brings his men to action and they obey.

3) Motivation Survival? Destruction? Other motive(s)?	Survival is the main motivation. He knows the Sirens are powerful monsters with their lovely singing, so he knows he must take action to be prepared for them.	Survival here as well. With keeping information from his men about the monster they will face, Scylla, his motivation is to keep his men from becoming even more afraid than they already are. He is only giving them as much information as he thinks they need in order to survive this part of the journey.	Survival here as well. He gives the men very specific orders about how to steer their way through this narrow channel in order to survive passing between these two monsters.
4) Values What seems important to him?	He values his life and that of his crew. He values teamwork and brotherhood as he calls him men a "faithful company." He even mentions two of his men by name; these men helped hold him still as he fought to untie his ropes. He values the way they supported and helped him.	He calls his crew friends several times. When the six men are killed he says that he has never felt more pity than now in the death of these men. He clearly values friendship. When telling the men to obey his orders, he tells them they must do their duty. He values men that are dutiful. He values this in himself as well; it is his duty to see his crew successfully through these dangers and get them home.	His crew and his ship. He knows if their ship is swallowed up in the whirlpool created by Charybdis they will be dead. He urges the men to obey his orders and do their duty in rowing and steering the ship. He also seems to value sticking with a task and seeing it through to the end- he never gives up.
5) Character Traits Displayed	Leadership, courage, determination, industriousness, loyalty	Wisdom, loyalty, cooperation, leadership, determination, motivation, courage, endurance	Leadership, courage, determination, endurance