



THE ILIAD

ONE -LINE Summaries

1. Quarrel Agamemnon v Achilleus. Achilleus withdraws
2. Agamemnon 'tests' his troops. Catalogue of ships
3. Duel Paris v Menelaos and related events in Troy
4. Pandaros breaks the truce. Agamemnon reviews the army
5. Fighting Diomedes's aristeia
6. Diomedes/Glaukos Hektor in Troy
7. Duel Hektor v Telamonian Aias. Truce Greek wall built
8. Fighting Zeus with Trojans. Pro-Greek deities yield to Zeus
9. Greek embassy to Achilleus by night
10. The Doloneia Expedition of Odysseus and Diomedes
11. Agamemnon's aristeia. Greek heroes are wounded. Patroklos is sent to Nestor.
12. The Trojans attack the Greek wall
13. Zeus looks away. Greeks rally (Poseidon aids). Idomeneus's aristeia
14. Greek council. Hera seduces Zeus. Poseidon aids openly.
15. Zeus is back! Trojan success (Apollo aids). Fighting at ships.
16. Hektor fires a ship. Patroklos's aristeia and death.
17. Fight over Patroklos's body (incl. Automedon's aristeia)
18. Achilleus mourns Patroklos. Hephaistos's armour for Achilleus
19. Armour delivered Reconciliation: Agam/Ach . Ach - battle
20. Gods to Troy. Achilleus/Aineias. Achilleus's aristeia
21. Achilleus in action (incl. v river) Battle of gods. Agenor
22. Trojan views. Achilleus kills Hektor. Trojan laments
23. The funeral rites and games for Patroklos
24. Priam/ for Hektor's body/ with Achilleus/burial of Hektor.

A GUIDE TO THE ILIAD

The Iliad has 15,693 lines. The poem opens in the tenth year of the war between the Greeks and the Trojans; the scene is the Greek (Achaean) camp on the Trojan plain; the story spans a period of 52 days.

Homer's declared theme in the first line of the poem is the anger of Achilles. This anger and its consequences occupy four days.

BOOK 1

The Quarrel

Read the invocation (appeal to the Muse); it gives the theme to the Iliad.

Apollo sends a plague on the Greeks in response to a request by his priest Chryses, whose daughter, Chryseis, is part of Agamemnon's booty. Agamemnon and Achilles quarrel over booty and leadership. Agamemnon returns Chryseis, but takes as a replacement Achilles' prize Briseis. Achilles' appeal to his mother Thetis results in his withdrawal from battle. The book ends on Olympus, where a petty quarrel between the gods contrasts with the major quarrel between the two agathoi over time on earth.

Read page 38-9: 'This made the ox-eyed queen...'. -end, about the attitude and behaviour of the gods. (Homeric laughter).

BOOK 2

The Forces are displayed

The events of books 2-7 occupy a single day.

Zeus' promise to Thetis in book 1 swings into action with a false dream sent to Agamemnon. There follows the testing of the troops

(characterisation of Agamemnon), the outburst of Thersites (Read pages 45-6: 'They all sat down.'), and Odysseus' "take-over" of the command - all these reinforce the criticisms aimed at Agamemnon by Achilles in book 1. The Greek army gathers: catalogue of Greek forces; this is almost like a flashback serving to provide information required by the audience at the start of the poem.

(Interpolation?)

BOOK 3

A Truce and a Duel

Paris/Menelaos duel. A chance to meet the two men demanding Helen. We are also introduced to Helen and the Trojans (teichoskopia); thus, this book serves to emphasize the causes of the war. Read page 67-8 for characterisation of Helen; 'She found Helen...' pages 72ff for characterisation of Paris, (arming scene, duel and bedroom scene) 'The troops sat down in rows.....'

BOOK 4

Pandarus breaks the truce

Starts on Olympus with the grim spectacle of the interplay between men and gods. Agamemnon reviews his troops ('epipolesis'), providing us with the opportunity to meet the leading Greeks (interpolation?). Full scale fighting breaks out. Athene's ruthlessness in using Pandarus to break the truce: Read Page 79ff 'While the Achaeans....'.

Read page 88: 'And now battalion...' (similes to introduce the fighting). Diomedes is introduced. He will 'star' in book 5.

BOOK 5

Diomedes fights the gods

Full scale fighting continues; Agamemnon's cruelty is shown. The 'aristeia' of Diomedes. Physical presence of the gods on the battlefield, even of Aphrodite, who saves Paris, but is 'wounded' as she tries to save Aeneas. Read Agamemnon's exhortation to his troops (page 106); 'My friends, he said...' - an important statement about honour.

BOOK 6

Hector and Andromache

Trojans beaten back to Troy (Ilion). Hector urges women of Troy to help the war effort by making offerings to Athene. Diomedes/ Glaucus meeting (xenia). Scenes in Troy with Hector and the women in his life - Hecuba, Helen, and Andromache (compare Paris in book 3). Hector parts from Andromache, with forboding of his death. book highlights the suffering of innocents in war.

Read pp. 122-123; 'Glaucus' tale delighted... 'Diomedes and Glaucus exchange armour, highlights acquisitiveness of the heroes and working of xenia.

Read page 129; 'As he finished, glorious Hector...' Astyanax frightened by father in armour.

BOOK 7

Aias fights Hector

Hector and Paris rally the Trojans. Hector and Aias duel, which darkness halts; the duellists exchange gifts. The Greeks reject Trojan conciliation proposal of the return of Helen's possessions. Truce for the cremation of Greek and Trojan dead. Greeks build wall and ditch to defend camp and ships.

Fighting in this book typical of the first 9 years of the war.

Stubbornness prevents rational settlement of the war; there is no compromise.

Nestor's proposal to build wall: why now? Becomes significant in book 12.

BOOK 8

The Trojans reach the wall

Starts on Olympus - gods forbidden to intervene in the fighting (contrast book 5), so fulfilling promise made to Thetis in book 1 that Trojans would enjoy success until Achilles had been compensated. Fighting equal until mid-day when Zeus uses his scales (see them again in book 22) and the Greeks are driven inside their new defences. The book ends (l. 489 - end) with a glimpse of the Trojan camp at night (compare Henry V, Act 4 Prologue).

Read pages 159-60: 'Thus all night long...' . Famous end to the book.

BOOK 9

Overtures to Achilles

Greek leaders debate what to do in the crisis situation. Nestor blames Agamemnon for his folly of insulting Achilles who must now be reconciled to ensure that the Greeks do not lose the war. Embassy of Odysseus, Ajax and Achilles' tutor, Phoenix to Achilles. Each appeal to him in turn and offer him enormous recompense. Achilles' response is modified after each appeal, and he finally agrees to fight when the Trojans reach the huts and ships of his Myrmidons.

Thought by some to be finest book in Iliad - but is it interpolation? The embassy is not mentioned later...

Read Agamemnon's speech (Page 161: 'They sat down to the assembly... fall

to us) and compare book 2 where he was only testing! See also book 14.
Important characterisation of Agamemnon.
Read pages 163-4: 'Your majesty, Agamemnon....apology' Nestor's wise
counsel and blaming of Agamemnon. Agamemnon blames it on 'blind folly'.
The six speeches:

1. Odysseus:
offers the compensation
2. Achilles:
rejects them - Read pages 169-171: 'All I have suffered....humiliation I
endured.'
Threatens to go home tomorrow
3. Phoenix:
recommends forgiveness (Parable of the Prayers)
Read Page 174; 'Conquer your pride Achilles...'
Story of Meleager - example of one who did not accept gifts and suffered
for it. (Achilles suffers - will lose Patroclus)
4. Achilles:
Says he will decide tomorrow about sailing home
5. Alas:
Simple speech of straightforward soldier; take the money as compensation, a
new idea to replace vendetta.
6. Achilles:
Read page 178; 'Your highness, Alas...' his position shifts again, he will
only consider fighting when the situation is really desperate.

Odysseus reports back to Agamemnon, but only mentions the first threat of
Achilles and not subsequent shifts. (Implies failure of the mission)

BOOK 10

Night Interlude

Called the "Doloneia". The leaders are unable to sleep, both Greek and
Trojan. Diomedes and Odysseus set out to spy on the Trojan camp (Nestor's
idea). En route, they capture the Trojan spy, Dolon, whom they kill after
extracting information from him. In the Trojan camp, they kill Rhesus and
steal his horses. Note the animal skins in which the 'stalking spies'
dress. A self-contained book, with the possibility of interpolation.

BOOK 11

Achilles takes notice

Full scale fighting; the "aristeia" of Agamemnon. Agamemnon, Diomedes and
Odysseus are all wounded. Paris has 3 victims! including Diomedes in the
foot (foreshadowing of Achilles' fatal wound?)
Achilles sends Patroclus to Nestor (l. 598) to find out who is wounded.
Nestor urges Patroclus to ask Achilles to allow Patroclus to return to
battle. (l. 795)
Read page 213; inconsistency of '... at last I see the Achaeans...'?
Read page 218; Nestor beginning to work on Patroclus.

N.B. Important statement of Heroic Code: 'While the old man Peleus exhorted
his boy Achilles *always to strive for the foremost place and outdo his
peers.....*'

BOOK 12

Hector storms the wall

Full scale fighting. Trojans breach the Greek defensive wall and the Greeks are trapped between fire and water. Sarpedon is in the forefront:
Read page 229; important statement regarding responsibilities of the hero. ('noblesse oblige') 'Glaucus', he said, 'why do..... for ourselves'

BOOK 13

The battle at the ships

The Trojans pour into Greek camp but Zeus turns his eyes away from Troy, so Poseidon intervenes on the Greek side. Many Trojan leaders are wounded (compare Greeks in book 11).
Read page 235; characterisation of Hector as 'madman'.
Read page 250; gory description of fighting.
The theme of slaughter and gluttony is throughout; it numbs the senses but it is localised to small area of the world, hence Zeus's indifference: Read page 234 'When Zeus had.... Danaan arms'

BOOK 14

Zeus outmanoeuvred

Discussion between the three Greeks wounded in book 11 and Nestor: this offers insight into their characters. Read page 258-9 for Agamemnon: 'Nestor, said Agamemnon.....fatal leadership'. N.B. Odysseus shows far better understanding of psychology of the troops than Agamemnon does! Poseidon urges on the Greeks.
Zeus seduced by Hera; Read pages 261-262 where she 'arms' for battle: 'Now Hera.....shimmering feet' Note Hera gets help from Aphrodite because she needs to inspire passion in her husband. This allows the battle to rage. Hector wounded.
Note contrast in this book: divine bed of flowers on which Zeus and Hera make love; the cruel slaughter of the humans. Read page 266 and 270.

BOOK 15

The Achaeans at bay

Zeus awakes and prophesies the future. He punishes Hera - verbally. The Greeks are driven back again. Apollo smashes the Greek wall. Hector reaches the ships, opposed only by Ajax, and demands fire.

BOOK 16

Patroclus fights and dies

Achilles allows Patroclus to fight, dressed in his armour. He instructs Patroclus to stop once he has driven the Trojans from the ships. A Greek ship is fired; Patroclus and the Myrmidons quench the fire and drive the Trojans back. Patroclus/Sarpedon duel. Patroclus attacks the walls of Troy and is killed by a combination of Apollo, Euphorbus and Hector.

This marks the turning point in the Iliad; with the deaths of Patroclus and Sarpedon a note of TRAGEDY is introduced. Note the arming scene, typical but clear that Patroclus is no Achilles; Read pages 295-6: 'Patroclus put onto his noble foes.' Patroclus enjoys his Aristeia, but his killing is almost ritualistic. His sacrifice alone will serve to bring back Achilles.

Read page 294: 'Nevertheless, Patroclus...single-handed'; contradiction of the embassy in book 9?

BOOK 17

The struggle over Patroclus

Fighting over Patroclus' body. Menelaos/Euphorbos duel (n.b. sympathetic treatment of Euphorbos, even though he was one of Patroclus' killers). Trojans strip Patroclus of his armour. Further fighting over his body. Achilles is distressed and promised new armour by Thetis.

Read page 328, for statement of human condition ('The Son of Cronos... man')

Read 333, for the famous fog-bound line 'Kill us in daylight, if you must.'

BOOK 18

Armour for Achilles

Achilles informed of Patroclus' death; his grief (which heralds the beginning of the end of his withdrawal) is intense. Thetis visits Achilles (compare book 1). Achilles appears at the Greek ditch and the sight of him is enough to scare the Trojans from Patroclus' body. He brings the body back. At a Trojan assembly, Hector rejects the advice to retreat into the city. Note the deterioration in Hector's character: Read page 341, where Hector 'has set his heart on dragging off Patroclus. He wants to cut his head off The Greeks mourn for Patroclus all night long. Note the change in direction of Achilles' anger: Read page 345-6: 'So, then, Patroclus... of men.' Hephaistos makes new armour for Achilles.

N.B. Achilles' new shield:

It is a symbol of order (kosmos); of the world, stars and their courses; man's order, the harvest and the cattle - the very order being destroyed now in the war (the shield itself is the implement of its destruction), yet the war grew out of of another disorder: Troy's disruption of the rites of marriage, which is the first thing shown after the constellations. Only a god could have made so serene a model of the world; the world is many things at once, both war and peace, tranquility and confusion, love and hate. The shield is an apt symbol for Achilles to bear for he is now out of the ordinary life of men. Marriages and harvests will go on, but not for Achilles. His own death is near, and he is dedicated to the death of one man and the mourning of another, he has become an almost abstract design of pure fate, to flash like a meteor, and then go out.

BOOK 19

The feud is ended

Thetis brings Achilles his new armour. He calls an assembly (compare book 1) and renounces his anger. Agamemnon is nervous, finds it difficult to address Achilles directly, blames it all on 'ate' but finally admits he was wrong. The compensation is handed over. Achilles now eager for battle, but Odysseus restrains him, insists on feeding the troops (Read page 359: 'But Achilles.....groans of dying men') and on a public and formal reconciliation between Achilles and Agamemnon. Briseis and Achilles lament over Patroclus. Achilles arms for battle, (Read pages 363-4: Among all these...noble foes'; compare with the other three arming scenes in the Iliad). His horse prophesies his death.

BOOK 20

The gods go to war

Zeus bids assembly of the gods to side with the humans (as their 'sympathies dictate') which they do. Long scene between Achilles and Aeneas - to delay meeting with Hector. Achilles kills Priam's young son, Polydorus, and Hector attacks Achilles, but an image of him replaces the real Hector. Achilles' aristeia begins with much slaughter ('androktasias'); for his frenzy and cruelty Read page 378-9: 'Even as he spoke.....with gore'.

Note Zeus' Olympian grandstand seat: Read page 366-7; 'Lord of the Earthquake... dogs of war.'

BOOK 21

Achilles fights the river

Achilles rages on. He fights two duels. Many of the dead fall into the river Scamander (also known as Xanthus) who takes exception to having his channels blocked up and so attacks Achilles. Full scale fighting, both human and divine. The gods squabble like children amongst themselves ('theomachy') in a caricature of the real human fighting. Trojans flee into the city.

There is terror and light relief in this book. No other Greek fighter is mentioned (as in 20) so it seems like Achilles against the whole Trojan army!

Read pages 382-90: note especially: 382-3 'Thus the highborn....from his bow' - 'sublime lines' (Willcock); and 386-90: 'When he heard this...beautiful banks'.

Read pages 390-3: 'But now the feud....all her fault'. Glorious tomfoolery; a reminder that 'immortality precludes seriousness...'

Ruthlessness and terror are balanced in this book by frivolity and silliness. The audience apparently willing to accept it - even if it means the gods being made to look stupid.

BOOK 22

The games - Death of Hector

Hector stands outside Troy - kept there by 'Fate for her own evil purposes' - despite the pleas of his parents. ('have pity on me, your poor father' - Hecuba, likewise pleads for 'pity') Hector is adamant - he fears 'aidos' more. When Achilles encounters Hector, the latter flees round the walls of Troy, with Achilles in hot pursuit. Read pages 401-2 for the realism of the chase; note esp. 'This was no ordinaryfuneral games' and 'More than once Hector...move a limb'. Zeus' scales are produced, Hector 'loses' and is immediately abandoned by Apollo. Aided by Athene, Achilles kills Hector - why do the gods need to help him? 'It is precisely because he doesn't need her (Athene's) help that he gets it...' (Willcock) - because it enhances his victory and enables the goddess to share in his success. Read pages 405-7; for Hector's death and dying words: 'Achilles saw that.....ships on fire.'

Achilles then proceeds to abuse the corpse - Homer disapproves - and glories in his victory over 'the noble Hector, who was treated like a god in Troy'.

Inside Troy, there is lamentation for Hector. Pathos of Andromache who envisages what will now happen to her and their son: Read page 410-11: 'And your son isend.'

Here is the climax of the WRATH theme. Note esp. Achilles' personal anger in all this

BOOK 23

The games

Greeks lament for Patroclus. Funeral games are held. The games are symbolic of a return to order and more civilised behaviour. Read pages 419-36: the games themselves; note the connection between games and military training. All the national games had legends which attributed their origin to funeral games held to honour a great hero.

BOOK 24

Priam and Achilles

Abuse of Hector's corpse continues. Gods decide that the corpse should be returned to Priam. Priam, helped by the gods, visits Achilles inside the Greek camp and ransoms Hector's body. The poem ends with the funeral of Hector and mourning for him by the three women of Troy.

The loose ends are tied up. The wrath theme (begun in book 1) ends. Achilles' anger is not finally assuaged until he treats Priam gently. It is Priam, ironically, who 'humanises' Achilles again by reminding him of his father. Read page 450-1: 'It is to get him back from you... pattern of our lives.'

The Book is a deliberate anti-climax. The action was over when Hector was killed but it is only now that the theme of ANGER is resolved.

Read page 458: '...but in all the nineteen years...'. The final difficulty of the Iliad!

Note the correspondence between books 1 and 24:

Book 1

- a) rejection of the father (Chryses) who wishes to ransom his daughter.
- b) quarrel between Achilles and Agamemnon
- c) Thetis speaks to Achilles and agrees to take a message to Zeus
- d) Thetis and Zeus
- e) dispute among the gods

Book 24

- e) dispute among the gods
- d) Zeus and Thetis
- c) Thetis speaks to Achilles, having brought a message from Zeus
- b) friendly converse between Achilles and Priam
- a) agreement that the father (Priam) may ransom the body of his son.

D. SWIFT MAY '92

THE ILIAD: book by book summary

A POEM OF 15,693 LINES, divided into 24 books of between 400 and 900 lines in length. The division into books was made long after the composition of the poem, perhaps in the third century BC.

There is one book for each letter of the Greek alphabet. The division was done well.

BOOK I

- | | | |
|---------|----|--|
| 1-430 | a) | The quarrel - its causes and its immediate consequences. |
| 431-492 | b) | An interlude showing the passage of time |
| 493-611 | c) | A balancing scene among the gods. |

a) Chryses, a priest of Apollo, comes to the camp of the Greeks, and asks to ransom his daughter, CHRYSEIS, who has been captured and allotted to AGAMEMNON as his concubine. Agamemnon refuses and sends Chryses away with threats. Chryses prays to Apollo to avenge him and Apollo hears and inflicts a plague on the Greeks. ACHILLEUS, prompted by Hera, calls a conference of the Greeks and addresses them. He calls upon Kalchas, a seer, to explain the anger of Apollo against them. Kalchas first of all asks Achilles to protect him against Agamemnon and Achilles agrees. Kalchas then explains that Apollo is angry because Agamemnon has dishonoured his priest, Chryses. Agamemnon is very angry and abuses Kalchas, but he agrees to give up Chryseis for the good of his people. However he demands a substitute prize. Achilles argues that there is no pool of booty to draw on. Agamemnon then threatens to take the concubine of another of the Greek leaders. Achilles is now very angry. He has no grievance against the Trojans, but is fighting to support Agamemnon. If Agamemnon is going to treat him in this way, he is going home. Agamemnon tells him to go home then, and says he will take Achilles's concubine, BRISEIS, from him. Achilles is on the point of drawing his sword on Agamemnon when he is restrained by Athene, sent by Hera. He continues to abuse Agamemnon with words and he swears that he will fight no longer. Nestor, now an old man, tries to intercede but without success. Achilles says that he will not fight over Briseis.

The assembly breaks up. Achilles returns to his ships. Agamemnon arranges for the return of Chryseis. Offerings are made to Apollo. Agamemnon's heralds collect Briseis from Achilles. Achilles goes apart from his men and calls on his mother, Thetis, who comes to him. Achilles explains to her what has happened, and asks her to supplicate Zeus: give the Trojans success in fighting against the Greeks, so that they may come to realise his worth to them. Thetis agrees to do so.

b) Odysseus escorts Chryseis back to her father. Chryses calls upon Apollo to release the Greeks from the plague, and Apollo hears him. Sacrifice is made to Apollo, followed by feasting. Next day the Greeks return to the camp, and disperse to their own quarters.

c) On Olympos, Zeus receives a visit from Thetis who puts Achilles's request to him. Zeus agrees reluctantly, because he knows that Hera will oppose him. Thetis returns to the sea. Hera questions Zeus suspiciously, because she has seen the interview with Thetis. Zeus frightens Hera into silence. Hephaistos acts as peacemaker and calms his mother, Hera. Hephaistos serves the rest of the immortals with nectar and causes amusement.

BOOK II

- 1-454 a) Zeus sends an evil dream to Agamemnon who acts upon it.
- 455-877 b) The Catalogue of the ships of the Greeks, followed by a Trojan catalogue.

a) Zeus sends evil Dream to Agamemnon, urging him to go into battle against the Trojans, because he will have success. Evil dream obeys, and Agamemnon believes that he will take Troy that very day.

Agamemnon holds a council of princes and tells them of his dream. he also announces that he has decided to test his men by telling them to flee in their ships. The army assembles and Agamemnon addresses them. he announces that Zeus is against them and the men rush for the ships. Athene, on Hera's order, visits Odysseus to stop his flight and he, in turn, talks to others and they return to the assembly place. Thersites proposes going home, leaving Agamemnon by himself. he is rebuked and physically beaten by Odysseus who goes on to urge the Greeks to stay and take Troy. He reminds them of Kalchas's interpretation of a portent sent by Zeus to the Greeks at Aulis. odysseus is supported in his view by Nestor, who goes on to advise Agamemnon to set his men in order. Agamemnon gives orders for them to prepare for battle.

They all take dinner and make sacrifice. Agamemnon summons the leaders to a meeting, and he prays to Zeus for success against the Trojans. Zeus does not pay heed. Agamemnon orders the heralds to marshall the men for battle. Athene moves amongst them, urging them on.

b) The assembling Greeks are compared to
i) fire, ii) birds, iii) flies, iv) goatherds, v) a bull
(gleam) (noise) (number) (leaders (Agamemnon)
The Muses are invoked for the catalogue. Forty-four leaders are mentioned of whom ten are killed in the Iliad (three by Hektor). There are five major areas:

- | | | |
|----|---------|--|
| 1) | 494-558 | Greece north of the Isthmus of Corinth |
| 2) | 559-624 | The Peloponnese |
| 3) | 625-644 | The Western Islands and Western Greece |
| 4) | 645-680 | The South Eastern Islands |
| 5) | 681-759 | Northern Greece |

- In 1) the two Aias - notable heroes
 2) Diomedes, Agamemnon, Menelaos, Nestor
 3) Odysseus
 4) Idomeneus
 5) (Achilleus, Protesilaos, Philoktetes)

The best horses (mares of Eumelos) are named and the best men (Telamonian Aias) (Achilleus and his horses - really the best).

Iris, messenger of the gods, warns the Trojans of the approach of the Greeks. The Trojans break up the assembly and muster in order near the city.

Hektor, Priam's son, leads them.

- | | | |
|----|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1) | 816-843 | Troy and environs |
| 2) | 844-850 | European allies |
| 3) | 851-857 | Those along south of Black Sea |
| 4) | 858-863 | Those inland into Asia Minor |
| 5) | 864-877 | Those south, coast of Asia Minor |

In 1) Aineias, Antenor, Pandaros - notable heroes and in 5) Sarpedon and Glaukos. Twenty-seven leaders are mentioned of whom seventeen are killed in the Iliad (four by Aias, three by Diomedes, three by Achilleus).

The Romans and Greeks liked to make lists. It is a catalogue of the ships. It is believed that Homer took an already made catalogue and used it for his poem. 3 alterations Homer has made to an already made list. There are three wrongs so he has to change it to make it fit his poem. Original list had Achilleus, but Achilleus in his poem is not fighting at the moment.

BOOK III

- | | | |
|---------|----|--------------------------|
| 1-120 | a) | The duel is arranged |
| 121-244 | b) | The view from the wall |
| 245-382 | c) | The duel takes place |
| 383-448 | d) | Aphrodite summons Helen |
| 448-461 | e) | Agamemnon claims victory |

a) The Trojans advance noisily, the Greeks silently. Paris challenges a Greek to single combat. Menelaos is eager to accept the challenge, but when Paris sees him, he retreats into the Trojan ranks. Hektor rebukes him for his cowardice. Paris accepts the rebuke and asks Hektor to arrange a duel between himself and Menelaos. Hektor puts Paris's suggestion to the Greeks and they agree, Menelaos being their spokesman. Each side sends heralds to fetch animals for sacrifice.

b) Iris comes to Helen in her chamber to tell her about the duel and to invite her to come and see. Helen goes to the Skaian gates where Priam and his elders are sitting. Priam calls upon Helen for information about some of the leading Greeks. Helen identifies Agamemnon, Odysseus, Aias and Idomeneus. Helen fails to see Kastor and Polydeukes, her brothers (they are dead).

c) Priam is fetched from the city on to the plain. Priam and Antenor for the Trojans and Agamemnon and Odysseus for the Greeks make sacrifice, swear oaths and pray to Zeus before the duel. Zeus does not pay heed to them. Priam and Antenor return to the city, since Priam cannot bear to watch the duel. Hektor casts lots for the first throw and Paris's comes out. The arming of Paris is described (the first of four such descriptions; see also XI 17-44 (Agamemnon); XVI 131-144 (Patroklos); XIX 369-391 (Achilleus)). In each case the order is the same: greaves breastplate, sword, shield, helmet, spear(s) - Know order.

The duel begins: Paris casts his spear and Menelaos takes it on his shield. Menelaos casts his spear with a prayer to Zeus and strikes Paris's shield. The spear pierces the shield and the corelet and tunic but Paris avoids death. Menelaos strikes Paris's helmet with his sword but the sword breaks. Menelaos grabs hold of Paris by the helmet and is dragging him away when Aphrodite breaks the helmet's chin-strap. As Menelaos advances again, Aphrodite whisks Paris away to his chamber.

d) Aphrodite then goes to summon Helen. Helen sees through the goddess's disguise and refuses to go to Paris. Aphrodite becomes angry and Helen, in fear, follows the goddess. Helen speaks to Paris with sarcasm and criticism. Helen says why have you come back! Go back and fight Menelaos - better actually stay as he'll probably kill you.

BOOK IV

- 1-222 a) Panderos breaks the truce
223-421 b) Agamemnon's review of the army
422-544 c) Fighting

a) In a council of the gods, Zeus deplores the interference of Hera and Athene for the Greeks and Aphrodite for the Trojans. Zeus and Hera bargain with each other and Zeus agrees to let the war be renewed between the Greeks and the Trojans, dear though Troy is to him. Zeus is persuaded by Hera to send Athene to Troy. She seeks out Pandaros, a Trojan archer, and persuades him to shoot at Menelaos, with a prayer to the archer-god, Apollo. However, Athene fends off the arrow from Menelaos so that he is merely grazed. Agamemnon is most concerned for Meleaoas but Menelaos assures him that the wound is not serious. Agamemnon sends a herald to summon Machaon, the physician, for Menelaos. Machaon comes and treats Meleaoas.

b) Agamemnon reviews his army on foot. He urges them on against the oath-breaking Trojans, apportioning praise or blame as appropriate. he speaks to:

- i) Idomeneus is praised and promises loyalty.
- ii) The Aiantes are praised - no reply
- iii) Nestor is organising his men. He is praised (pity you are old) and he assures Agamemnon that he will do his bit.
- iv) Menestheus and Odysseus are scolded for holding back. Odysseus is quick to answer back ("Just you watch") and Agamemnon in good humour takes back what he has said.
- v) Diomedes is scolded for holding back and he is accused of not being the man his father Tydeus was. Diomedes does not answer back, and, when his friend, Sthenelos does so, Diomedes reproves him.

c) The fighting is introduced by two similes: surf on shore/the Greeks
sheep/the Trojans

Ares drives on the Trojans, Athene the Greeks. Battle is joined with another simile: rivers in spate/the clash of men. The killing starts, Trojan and Greek alternately. Between death 5 and death 6, Apollo urges on the Trojans, referring to Achilleus's absence, and Athene drives on the Greeks. Seven killings are described in all.

BOOK V

The FIRST full book of FIGHTING

- | | | |
|---------|----|---|
| 1-83 | a) | General Greek successes |
| 84-165 | b) | Diomedes's minor victories |
| 166-453 | c) | Diomedes kills Pandaros and wounds Aineias and Aphrodite. |
| 454-710 | d) | General fighting. The Trojans attack. Encounter of Sarpedon and Tlepolemos. |
| 711-909 | e) | The goddesses intervene. With Athene's help, Diomedes wounds Ares himself. |

a) Athene gives strength to Diomedes. Phegeus, one son of Dares, a Trojan, casts at Diomedes but misses. Diomedes casts and hits Phegeus. The other son, Idaios is rescued by Hephaistos. Athene persuades Ares that they should both withdraw from the fighting. The Greeks have success: Agamemnon, Idomeneus, Menelaos, Meriones, Meges and Eurypylos - one man each.

b) DIOMEDES is compared to a river in spate. Pandaros, the Trojan archer who broke the truce, shoots at Diomedes and wounds him in the shoulder. Pandaros is jubilant, but Diomedes gets his friend Sthenelos to pull the arrow through and out. Diomedes prays to Athene for revenge on his attacker. Athene hears him and restores his strength. She warns him that Aphrodite is the only immortal with whom he may do battle. Diomedes joins battle again. He is compared to a lion. He kills 4 pairs of Trojans, each pair being in a chariot.

c) Aineias finds Pandaros and asks him to shoot at this murderous Greek. Pandaros replies that it is Diomedes whom he has already shot and who therefore must be under a god's protection. He goes on to explain that he hasn't a chariot for pursuit. Aineias invites him into his, while he dismounts to fight. Pandaros suggests rather than Aineias continues to drive his own chariot, while Pandaros attacks Diomedes from the chariot.

Sthenelos warns Diomedes of their approach, urging him to flee. Diomedes refuses and suggests that Sthenelos tries to capture the horses of Aineias. Pandaros throws his spear at Diomedes but fails to wound him. Diomedes, helped by Athene, kills Pandaros with a spear-cast. Aineias dismounts and advances on Diomedes but he casts a huge stone at Aineias and wounds him. Aphrodite, Aineias's mother, rescues him. Sthenelos captures Aineias's horses.

Diomedes wounds Aphrodite in the hand causing her to drop Aineias, but Apollo carries him off. Iris leads Aphrodite out of the battle and drives her to Olympos, using Ares's chariot. Aphrodite is comforted by her mother, Dione, with examples of other immortals (Ares, Hera and Hades) who suffered at the hands of mortals, and she is healed. Athene makes a scathing comment about Aphrodite, and Zeus warns Aphrodite against warfare. Diomedes challenges Apollo who is protecting Aineias, but Apollo warns him off. The real Aineias is now safely carried off into Troy into the care of Artemis and Leto.

d) Apollo substitutes a likeness of Aineias in the midst of the fighting. At Apollo's suggestion, Ares stirs up the Trojans. Sarpedon rebukes Hektor for leaving most of the fighting to the allies, and so rouses him to action. Apollo returns the real Aineias to the fighting. General fighting follows: Agamemnon kills a Trojan; Aineias kills 2 Greeks; Menelaos and Antilochos, acting together, kill 2 Trojans; Diomedes falls back before Hektor, seeing that Ares is with him; Hektor kills 2 Greeks; Telamonian Aias kills a Trojan. Tlepolemos advances on Sarpedon and insults him. Sarpedon makes a swift

retort. They cast at the same time. Tlepolemos is killed and Sarpedon is wounded. They are both carried out of the fighting. Odysseus considers going after Sarpedon, but kills 7 Lykians instead. Hektor checks Odysseus's onslaught, and advances, with Ares and kills 6 Greeks.

e) Hera and Athene with Zeus's permission go to help the Greeks. Hera rallies the Greeks in general, Athene Diomedes in particular. In reply to Athene, Diomedes says he has given way before Ares. Athene assures him of her support and becomes his charioteer in place of Sthenelos. With Athene's help, Diomedes wounds Ares and he withdraws to Olympus. He complains to Zeus about Athene. Zeus has little sympathy for him, but arranges for his treatment. Hera and Athene return to Olympus.

BOOK VI

- | | | |
|---------|----|--------------------------|
| 1-72 | a) | Greek successes continue |
| 73-118 | b) | Helenos advises Hektor |
| 119-236 | c) | Glaukos and Diomedes |
| 237-529 | d) | Hektor's visit to Troy |

a) The fighting continues without the gods. Ten Greek champions have success. Menelaos captures Adrestos and he is tempted to accept a ransom for sparing him, but Agamemnon overrules him and kills Adrestos. Nestor urges on the Greeks to further killing.

b) Helenos, a Trojan seer, addresses Aineias and Hektor and advises Hektor to go back into Troy to persuade the womenfolk to supplicate Athene. Hektor rallies the Trojans and tells them what he is going to do.

c) Glaukos encounters Diomedes who speaks first, and asks Glaukos to identify himself, in case he is an immortal. Glaukos recounts his genealogy at some length, including the story of Bellerophontes. On hearing his tale, Diomedes is gladdened and drives his spear into the ground. This is because his grandfather Oineus and Glaukos's grandfather Bellerophontes were guest-friends. Diomedes and Glaukos exchange armour as a pledge of their friendship. Diomedes gets the better armour.

d) Hektor goes to Troy and meets:-

- 1) Hekabe, his mother, and his sister, Laodike. Hekabe urges him to pour a libation to Zeus and refresh himself with wine. Hektor refuses and tells her, along with other ladies, to make an offering to Athene. Hekabe does as she is bidden but Athene does not pay heed.
- 2) PARIS and HELEN. Hektor finds Paris in his own house, handling his armour, and Helen is there too. Hektor rebukes Paris for not taking part in the fighting. Paris accepts the rebuke as justified and promises to come. Helen is full of criticism both of herself and of Paris. She urges Hektor to rest, but he refuses and asks her to hurry Paris along. Hektor next goes to his own house to see his wife, but she is not at home. On making enquiries, he is told that she has gone to the wall because she heard that the Trojans were losing. As he is making his way back out on to the plain, his wife comes running to meet him.

- 3) ADROMACHE and baby Astyanax. She urges Hektor to stay near the city, lest he be killed by the Greeks. She points out that he is the only family she has, since her parents and brothers are dead. Hektor rejects her suggestion because it would be dishonourable to act thus. He admits to being concerned for Adromache's future, since he knows that Troy will fall. Astyanax is frightened by his father's helmet and Hektor removes it and takes the child in his arms. He prays to Zeus to safeguard his child's future. He tells Adromache gently to go home - fighting is men's work.

Paris leaves his house at a run and catches up with Hektor and together they return to the fighting.

BOOK VII

Paris and Hektor enjoy success. Athene and Apollo scheme together to stop the fighting: Hektor is to fight a duel. Helenos brings this idea to Hektor. Hektor issues his challenge and he is greeted with silence. Meleaos rebukes the Greeks and makes to go himself. Agamemnon restrains him. Nestor shames the Greek leaders into action, lots are cast, and Telamonian Aias is chosen. The duel takes place. Apollo supports Hektor. The heralds stope the duel because it is night. They exchange gifts. Nestor makes two proposals: i) a truce to burn the dead and ii) the building of a defensive wall.

The Trojans hold an assembly: Anknor proposes the return of Helen; Paris refuses; Priam proposes suggesting a truce to the Greeks for disposal of the dead and Paris's offer of restoration of all property taken, with interest, but not Helen. The Greeks accept the truce but reject Paris's offer. Both sides carry out rites for the dead. The Greeks also build the defensive wall proposed by Nestor.

Among the gods, Poseidon tells Zeus of his concern that the new Greek wall will over-shadow the one he and Apollo built. Zeus gives permission for Poseidon to destroy the new wall once the Greeks have gone home.

BOOK VIII

A complete days fighting with Zeus, pro-Trojan and Hera and Athene, pro-Greek.

At a council of the gods Zeus FORBIDS them all to interfere. The battle begins, Nestor, in danger from Hektor, is saved by Diomedes. Zeus supports the Trojans. Hera is tempted to help the Greeks but Poseidon reminds her of Zeus's orders. Hera, however, gives Agamemnon's spirit. Zeus sends the Greeks a sign that they are not forgotten. Teukros, a Greek archer, has great success. He kills two of Hektor's charioteers but Apollo protects Hektor himself. Hektor wounds Teukros. Zeus rallies the Trojans again. Hera and Athene make ready to help the Greeks against Hektor, but Zeus sends Iris to turn them back. They yield. Zeus returns to Olympos. Athene sulks. Hera makes her protest but agrees to abide by Zeus's orders. Zeus says that there is nothing Hera can do about it.

After nightfall, Hektor speaks to an assembly of the Trojans. He speaks with confidence, ready for the final push against the Greeks the next day.

BOOK IX

The embassy to Achilleus

Agamemnon summons the Greeks to an assembly and addresses them, urging them to go home. (He means it). Diomedes objects, saying that he intends to stay till Troy is taken. Nestor proposes that they post guards and have a meal. This is done and Agamemnon takes the leaders to his own quarters. Nestor then proposes that Achilleus be placated. Agamemnon admits his wrong and lists the honours for Achilleus by way of reparation. Nestor approves and suggests a delegation consisting of: Phoinix, Aias, Odysseus and 2 heralds. Achilleus welcomes them and entertains them.

Six speeches follow:-

- 1) Odysseus: He explains the Greeks' need for Achilles and lists Agamemnon's offered compensation. Achilles should return for the good of the rest of the Greeks.
- 2) Achilleus: He questions the basis of the HEROIC CODE: are any possessions (marks of honour) worth risking one's life for? Agamemnon has wronged him. He does not trust him. He rejects compensation and will sail home the next day.
- 3) Phoinix: He traces his long-standing relationship with Achilles. He appeals to Achilles to control his anger. He relates the Parable of Prayers and cites Meleagros as an example.
- 4) Achilleus: He says that he has god-given superiority. The next day, he will decide whether to go home or not.
- 5) Aias: He says that Achilles is being unreasonable pitiless and implacable. Even the relatives of a murdered man accept a blood-price.
- 6) Achilleus: He says that he cannot forget or forgive the dishonour Agamemnon has done him. He will not fight until Hektor fires his ships.
Odysseus and Aias return, leaving Phoinix with Achilles, and report to Agamemnon on the failure of their mission. Diomedes expresses regret over the mission, for Achilles is now even more implacable. They should ignore him and carry on next day.

BOOK X

The Doloneia - centres on a character called Dolon.

Neither Agamemnon nor Menelaos can sleep. They collect up Idomeneus, the Aiantes, Nestor, Odysseus, Diomedes, Meges, Meriones and Thrasymedes and having checked on the guards they hold council. Nestor calls for a volunteer to spy on the Trojans. Diomedes offers first and chooses Odysseus as his companion. They arm themselves and set out, both praying to Athene who hears them. Meanwhile, Hektor, in a council, offers a reward for spying on the Greeks. Dolon volunteers. Dolon is caught by Odysseus and Diomedes, and, in terror of his life, answers Odysseus's questions about the Trojan positions. Then Diomedes kills him. Acting on the information received, Odysseus and Diomedes attack the Thracians and steal their horses. Apollo rouses Hippokoon, a Thracian, and the carnage is discovered.

Odysseus and Diomedes return in triumph to the Greek ships.

2-man spying mission on Trojans + 6 Greeks - 1 man.

BOOK XI

Aristeia - Account of one persons achievements on the battlefield.

The Greeks prepare for battle. The arming of Agamemnon is described. The Trojans also make ready. Agamemnon's ARISTEIA: he kills 3 pairs of Trojans (named) and others (not named). Zeus sends Iristo Hektor to tell him to urge on the Trojans but keep out of Agamemnon's way himself. Agamemnon kills Iphidamas, whose brother Koon wounds Agamemnon in the arm before being killed himself. Shortly after Agamemnon has to withdraw. Now Hektor leads an attack but he is held off by Odysseus and Diomedes. Paris wounds Diomedes in the foot and he has to withdraw. Odysseus now finds himself on his own. He kills 5 Trojans but he is then wounded by Sokos in the ribs. He kills Sokos. Melenaos hears Odysseus's cries for help and under cover provided by Aias, he leads Odysseus from the battle. Paris wounds Machaon the physician, and Nestor drives him to the ships. Kebriones, Hektor's charioteer, takes him into the thick of the fighting. Aias fights a fine rear-guard action. Paris wounds Eurypylos.

Achilleus sends Patroklos to Nestor to find out who is in his chariot. Patroklos finds out but he is detained by Nestor speaking. After a long reminiscence, Nestor suggests that Patroklos might persuade Achilleus to fight or to let Patroklos, dressed in Achilleus's armour, lead out the Myrmidons. On his way back to Achilleus, Patroklos meets the wounded Eurypylos and agrees to attend to the wound, despite his eagerness to get back to Achilleus.

BOOK XII

The Trojans attack the wall built by the Greeks to protect their ships.

Poulydamas, adviser to Hektor, advises Hektor to make the attack without horses.

Hektor organizes five divisions, led by:

- 1) Hektor, Poulydamas, Kebriones - Charioteer
- 2) Paris, leader, Alkathoos, Agenor
- 3) Helenos, sons of P , Deiphobos, Asios
- 4) Aineias, leader, Archelochos, Akamas
- 5) Sarpedon, allies of Trojans-Lyrians, Glaukos, Asteropaios

Asios keeps his horses and attacks a side gate but meets strong resistance. A portent - sign from gods (eagle/snake) appears to Hektor's division. Poulydamas advises Hektor not to attack, but Hektor rejects both the portent and the advice.

The attack by Hektor is on the centre and involves stone-throwing by both sides. Zeus inspires his son, Sarpedon, to attack his section of the wall. Sarpedon speaks to Glaukos about the principle of noblesse oblige. Menestheus, the Greek leader at this part of the wall, sends a herald to fetch help, and Aias and Teukros come. A fierce fight follows.

Hektor throws a large stone at the gates in the centre of the wall and the Trojans burst through.

BOOK XIII

Zeus now turns his attention away from Troy. Poseidon, who has been watching the fighting, joins the Greeks, disguised as Kalchas, the seer. He encourages the Aiantes and other minor leaders and puts strength into them. They have some success and hold off Hektor. Poseidon, now disguised as Thoas, urges Idomeneus to fight alongside him. Idomeneus goes to arm himself and behind the lines he meets Meriones. They each feel they have to justify their absence from the fighting. Idomeneus's ARISTEIA follows: he kills Othryoneus, Asios and Alkathoos, summoned to avenge his brother-in-law, Alkathoos. Fighting on the left continues with Aineias, Deiphobos, Helenos and Paris against Meriones, Antilochos and Menelaos. Four warriors are killed on each side, Meriones taking two. Deiphobos and Helenos are both wounded and retire. The Greeks have the advantage.

Fighting is now concentrated in the centre where Hektor is opposed by the Aiantes working closely together. Poulydamas advised Hektor to regroup and take stock. Hektor, on checking the situation, finds some of his leaders dead or wounded. He finds Paris who rallies his followers behind Hektor. Hektor is now confronted by Telamonian Aias who alleges that it is Zeus and not the Trojans beating the Greeks. Hektor arrogantly proclaims doom to all Greeks.

BOOK XIX

An interlude before the battle

- | | | |
|---------|----|---|
| 1-39 | a) | Thetis brings the arms to Achilles |
| 40-275 | b) | Greek assembly. Public reconciliation between Agamemnon and Achilles. |
| 276-345 | c) | Laments of Briseis and Achilles |
| 349-391 | d) | Achilles arms for battle |
| 392-424 | e) | Achilles's conversation with the divine horses. |

a) Thetis brings the armour Hephaistos has made to Achilles beside the ships. She finds him mourning Patroklos. The armour distracts him from his grief and he recognises the armour as being divinely made. Achilles expresses concern for Patroklos's body and Thetis promises to preserve it. She urges him to call an assembly to 'unsay' his anger against Agamemnon and she puts courage into him,

b) Achilles summons the Greeks to an assembly. There is a big turn-out including some previously not interested and the wounded leaders (Diomedes, Odysseus, Agamemnon). Achilles addresses the assembly and Agamemnon in particular and he announces that he is making an end of his anger. The Greeks are pleased with his statement. Agamemnon replies, blaming Ate, daughter of Zeus for his treatment of Achilles. He elaborates on Ate, telling how she was used by Hera against him and was thrown out of Olympos.

Agamemnon says he is willing to make reparation. Achilles has no interest in gifts but is eager for immediate action. Odysseus makes the practical suggestion that the men should feed before battle.

Odysseus urges Agamemnon to give the gifts to Achilles in the middle of the assembly and he urges Achilles to accept them graciously. Agamemnon is pleased by Odysseus's suggestion and sends him to fetch the gifts. Achilles has no time or patience for either gifts or eating. Odysseus repeats his point about eating and then goes to fetch the gifts, and a board is produced by the herald Talthybios for Agamemnon to sacrifice and swear an oath that he has not laid a hand on Briseis. Achilles admits that Zeus sends great delusions to men. He dismisses the assembly so that they can eat.

c) The men disperse to the ships and the Myrmidons take the gifts. Briseis mourns Patroklos, lamenting the fact that she left him alive and has come back to find him dead. She sees Patroklos's death as yet another evil in her life. Patroklos was always kind to her. Achilles refuses food and drink and mourns Patroklos again. He says that the death of Patroklos is the worst thing he could have suffered. He had hoped that Patroklos would survive the war and return to Phthia. Zeus reproaches Athene for neglecting Achilles and sends her to give him divine sustenance.

d) Athene does as Zeus has order. Achilles arms himself with the armour made by Pephaistos (greaves, corselet, sword, shield, helmet, spear).

e) Achilles's horses are yoked to the chariot. Automedon, his driver, mounts the chariot with Achilles behind him. Achilles addresses his horses and Xanthos replies (Hera gives him a voice). The horse says that this time Achilles will be safe, but his death is not now far off. It says that Apollo was responsible for the death of Patroklos, giving the glory to Hektor. Achilles is puzzled by the horse's speech - he well knows his destiny.

BOOK XX

- | | | |
|---------|----|--|
| 1-30 | a) | Assembly of the gods |
| 31-155 | b) | The Gods go to Troy and involve themselves in the fighting again. |
| 156-352 | c) | Encounter: Achilles v Aineias |
| 353-503 | d) | Achilles's ARISTEIA. Twice Hektor and Achilles come face to face but the gods intervene. |

a) Zeus tells Themis to summon all the gods to an assembly. They all obey the summons. Poseidon asks Zeus why they have been summoned and Zeus gives them permission to rejoin the fighting, before Achilles goes so far as to storm Troy.

- b) The gods go to Troy:
- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Hera) | Ares) |
| Athene) to the Greeks | Apollo) |
| Poseidon) | Artemis) to the Trojans |
| Hermes) | Aphrodite) |
| Hephaistos) | Leto) |
| | Xanthos) |

The gods not only urge on the fighting but also take a stand against each other. Achilles is seeking Hektor but encounters Aineias. Apollo, in disguise, taunts Aineias for not wanting to face up to Achilles. Aineias justifies himself by saying that since Achilles always has divine protection it is an unequal contest. Apollo assures Aineias that his mother Aphrodite is superior to Achilles's mother Thetis, and breathes strength into him.

Hera consults Poseidon and Athene whether to divert Aineias or support Achilles. Poseidon suggests that they hold both and avoid an open quarrel with Ares or Apollo. Meantime the gods on both sides withdraw.

c) Aineias and Achilles advance against each other and Achilles speaks first, inquiring why Aineias is challenging him and reminding him of a previous encounter. Aineias replies explaining at length his genealogy [Zeus - Dardanos - Erichthonios-Tros-Ilos (Assarakos* and Ganymedes) - Laomedon - Priam - Hektor; *Assarakos - Kapys - Anchises - Aineias]. He continues speaking platitudes. Aineias drives his spear against Achilles's shield but the divinely-made shield holds it. Then Achilles casts and his spear goes right through Aineias's shield but Aineias is holding his shield above him so the spear passes through and sticks in the ground. Achilles advances on Aineias with his sword but Aineias prepares to defend himself with a huge stone. At this point, Poseidon announces that he will rescue Aineias since he is not destined to die in Troy but to perpetuate the seed of the Trojan race. Hera says he must decide for himself since she and Athene are implacably opposed to all Trojans. Poseidon then lifts Aineias and throws him to the edge of the battlefield. There Poseidon tells Aineias to avoid Achilles. Poseidon clears the mist which he put across Achilles's eyes and Achilles concludes that Aineias was saved by a god.

d) Achilles's ARISTEIA. Achilles urges on the Greeks and Hektor the Trojans. Apollo warns Hektor not to go out alone against Achilles. Achilles kills four Trojans, the fourth being Polydoros, Priam's youngest and most beloved son. The death of his brother, Polydoros, goads Hektor into facing up to Achilles. They have a sharp exchange of words. Then Hektor casts his spear but Athene blows it back from Achilles to land again at Hektor's feet. Achilles charges Hektor but Apollo catches Hektor up and wraps him in mist, leaving Achilles vainly attacking the mist. Achilles turns his attention to other Trojans and kills ten. he is compared in this onslaught to inhuman-fire or a man using oxen to thresh barley.

BOOK XXI

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|----|----------------|--|
| 1. | <u>1-382</u> | Achilles's aristeia continued |
| a) | 1-33 | He kills Trojans in the river Xanthos |
| b) | 34-135 | He encounters and kills Lykaon |
| c) | 136-210 | He encounters and kills Asteropaos |
| d) | 211-382 | He fights with the river Xanthos |
| 2. | <u>383-513</u> | THEOMACHIA. Battle of the gods |
| 3. | <u>514-611</u> | Achilles's aristeia continued. Agenor. |

1a) Some Trojans take refuge in the river Xanthos. Achilles jumps into the river after them, kills some and takes twelve alive to be vengeance for the death of Patroklos.

b) Achilles encounters Lykaon, escaping from the river. On a previous occasion, Achilles had captured Lykaon and sold him as a slave. Lykaon had been redeemed by a friend and had made his way home again. Achilles is amazed to see him again and is about to kill him when he grasps Achilles's knees and Achilles's spear misses its mark. Lykaon addresses Achilles as a suppliant and vainly pleads for his life, on the grounds that he and Hektor had different mothers. Achilles rejects his plea, kills him, and throws him in the river with taunting words.

c) Achilles encounters Asteropaios who comes out of the river to face him. When asked, Asteropaios identifies himself and casts two spears at Achilles, one from each hand. The shield parries one, but the other wounds Achilles's forearm. Achilles's spear misses its mark but his sword kills Asteropaios as he was trying to free Achilles's spear from the river bank. Achilles speaks tauntingly over him, rejoicing in his superior genealogy. He then kills seven Paionians followers of Asteropaios.

d) The river Xanthos is angry with Achilles for choking its waters with dead men and begs him to stop. Achilles refuses to stop until he has the Trojans penned in their city and has encountered Hektor. The river then calls on Apollo and reproaches him for not defending the Trojans. Achilles leaps into the river and they fight. The river has the best of it and Achilles is driven to appear to Zeus. Poseidon and Athena come and assure Achilles that it is not his destiny to be killed by the river, and that he will kill Hektor. They then leave Achilles, Athene having strengthened him. However, the river calls on the river Simoeis to help and again threatens to overwhelm Achilles. Hera sends Hephaistos to help Achilles and to assail the river with fire. The river pleads for mercy to Hera and she tells Hephaistos to stop punishing the river.

2.i) Ares v Athene: Ares stabs with his spear against the aegis. Athene lifts a huge stone and hits Ares in the neck. Aphrodite leads Ares away but Athene, on Her's orders, chases after them and strikes Aphrodite with her hand. Athene speaks in triumph over them.

ii) Poseidon v Apollo: Poseidon reminds Apollo of the time when they were servants to Laomedon and how he cheated them. Poseidon therefore cannot understand why Apollo supports the Trojans. Apollo declines Poseidon's challenge to fight. Apollo's sister, Artemis, reproaches him for giving way.

iii) Hera v Artemis: Hera accuses Artemis of being shameless enough to face up to her, and boxes her ears.

Artemis goes to Zeus for comfort and being asked, tells him that it was Hera who hurt her.

iv) Hermes v Leto: Hermes declines to fight with Leto, being a bridge of Zeus.

3. Apollo, alone of the gods, goes to Troy. Priam gives instructions for the gates of the city to be opened to receive the Trojans fleeing from Achilles. Apollo sends Agenor against Achilles. Agenor, in fear, debates with himself if he can avoid Achilles but decides to stand firm. He challenges Achilles and casts his spear but Achilles's divinely-made greave protects him. Achilles goes after Agenor but Apollo surrounds him in mist and sends him away. Apollo, then disguised as Agenor leads Achilles away in a futile chase. This allows the Trojans to flee into the city.

BOOK XXII CLIMAX OF THE ILIAD

- 1-130 a) Preliminaries to the duel: three speeches
 38-76: Priam to Hektor
 82-89: Hekabe to Hektor
 99-130: Hektor - soliloquy
- 131-366 b) The duel: the chase; divine debate and intervention;
 exchange of words, the fighting (273-330); final exchange
 of words.
- 367-404 c) Aftermath of the duel
- 404-515 d) Three laments for Hektor:
 405-429: Priam
 430-436: Hekabe
 437-515: Andromache

a) The Trojans are inside the city. Hektor remains outside. Apollo reveals himself to Achilles and he, greatly angered, returns to the city. Priam is the first to see him coming and he addresses Hektor. He laments for the sorrow Achilles has brought upon him and begs Hektor to come inside the city to safety. Next Hekabe makes the same appeal. Neither of them is able to persuade Hektor. Hektor debates with himself what people will say if he goes into the city to safety, whether he might do a deal with Achilles, then realises he must face Achilles and fight.

b) The DUEL: As Achilles advances, Hektor flees and is chased (simile hawk/dove) round the outside of the city. The gods watch and Zeus pities Hektor and questions whether he should be saved. Athene admits that he has the power to save Hektor but that she cannot approve. Zeus gives Athene permission to act as she wishes, and she quickly leaves Olympus. The chase continues (simile dog/fawn) (as in a dream..) three times round the city, with Apollo giving strength to Hektor. Then Zeus balances the scales: Hektor loses and Apollo abandons him. Athene comes to Achilles, assures him of her support and tells him to stop while she makes Hektor stand and fight. Athene, disguised as Deiphobos, goes to support Hektor. They advance and Hektor addresses Achilles, asking him to agree that the victor will honour the loser's body, but Achilles refuses to make any bargain. Achilles casts his spear, Hektor ducks and the spear passes over him, and Athene gives it back to Achilles. Hektor casts his spear and it strikes Achilles's shield. Then he calls on Deiphobos for his spear, finds he is not beside him and realises that Athene has tricked him. He draws his sword against Achilles who charges him and drives his spear into Hektor's neck. Hektor is still able to speak. Achilles is exultant, Hektor begs that his body be returned to his family. Achilles refuses. Hektor refers to Achilles's imminent death. Hektor dies.

c) Achilles pulls his spear from the body and strips the armour off it. Other Greeks gather round and stab Hektor's body. Achilles firstly proposes advancing on the city to see if the Trojans will surrender, now that Hektor is dead, but with a quick change of heart, he remembers the unburied Patroklos and orders a return to the ships. Achilles fastens Hektor's body by the feet to the back of his chariot and drags it through the dust.

d) The Trojans seeing this, raise a lament for Hektor. Priam has to be restrained from storming out of the city to supplicate Achilles. He laments most over the death of Hektor. Hekabe leads the women in grief Hektor's wife Andromache, was at home, weaving when she hears the sound of lamentation. She rushes to the wall and sees Hektor's body being dragged. She faints. When she comes round, she mourns Hektor, thinking especially of their baby son, Astyanax, and his uncertain future without a father.

BOOK XXIII

- | | | |
|---------|-----|--|
| 1-257 | a) | The funeral <u>rites</u> for Patroklos |
| 157-897 | b) | The funeral <u>GAMES</u> for Patroklos |
| 257-652 | i) | Chariot race |
| 653-897 | ii) | Seven other events |

a) Achilles orders the Myrmidons to drive three times round Patroklos's body to mourn him. Then they eat the funeral feast. The Greek leaders bring Achilles to Agamemnon to make the necessary arrangements. Preparations are made and they disperse to sleep. The ghost of Patroklos appears to Achilles, asking for a quick burial and for his ashes to be put in the same vessel as Achilles's. Achilles attempts to embrace Patroklos, in vain. Wood is gathered for the pyre, with Meriones supervising. The Myrmidons escort the body of Patroklos to the pyre. Achilles cuts off a lock of his hair for Patroklos. At Achilles's request, Agamemnon orders all but the leaders to disperse. The pyre is prepared with animal and human victims. Aphrodite and Apollo protect Hektor's body. Achilles prays to the north wind and the west to make the pyre burn. They come when called. The pyre burns all night long. Following Achilles's instructions, next morning the Greeks put out the pyre and gather up Patroklos's bones. The jar containing the bones is laid in Patroklos's shelter and they pile up a tomb.

bi) Chariot race

Five prizes are set out. Achilles calls for contestants, making it clear that he will not take part. Five come forward:

- 1) Eumelos
- 2) Diomedes - using Aineias's horses
- 3) Menelaos - using Agamemnon's mare
- 4) Antilochos - with advice from Nestor, his father
- 5) Meriones

Lots are drawn for places. In the closing stages of the race, Eumelos is in the lead with Diomedes second, and closing fast. Apollo takes away Diomedes's whip and he falls back, but Athene gives Diomedes his whip back and causes Eumelos to crash. Diomedes then takes the lead. Antilochos threaten his horses if they do not try harder, and then, at a narrow part of the course, he recklessly forces a way past Menelaos, who gives way rather than crash, but is very angry. Idomeneus and Oilean Aias argue as to who is in the lead, but Achilles calms them down. Diomedes comes in first, Antilochos second, Meleaos third, Meriones fourth and Eumelos last. Achilles is sorry for Eumelos and proposes giving him the second prize. Antilochos objects to losing his prize and suggests that Achilles should give Eumelos a special prize.

Achilleus agrees and Eumelos is delighted. Menelaos then makes a formal complaint about Antilochos's 'foul'. Antilochos gives up his second prize to Menelaos, who promptly gives it back again. Meriones takes fourth place and that prize, but the fifth prize, now being surplus, Achilleus gives to Nestor, in memory of Patroklos, and because Nestor is now too old to compete in the games. Nestor is delighted and reminisces about some victories of his youth.

ii) Boxing: Two prizes are set out. Epeios comes forward first. Euralos answers the challenge and Diomedes acts as his second. Epeios wins the bout.

iii) Wrestling: Two prizes are set out. Telamonian Aias and Odysseus come forward. Achilleus stops the contest and declares it a draw.

iv) Foot-race: Three prizes are set out. Oilean Aias, Odysseus and Antilochos compete. Towards the end, Odysseus, being close behind Aias, prays to Athene. Athene causes Aias to fall and Odysseus wins. Antilochos pays Achilleus a compliment and Achilleus increases his third prize.

v) Fight-in-armour: Two prizes are set out. (the armour of Sarpedon, stripped by Patroklos). Telamonian Aias and Diomedes compete. Diomedes is given the first prize, a 'points' victory.

vi) Discus: One prize is set out. Polypoites, Leonteus, Telamonian Aias and Epeios come forward. Polypoites wins by a large margin.

vii) Archery Two prizes are set out. Teukros and Meriones compete. Teukros shoots first and breaks the string, but Meriones shoots the pigeon as it flies free. Meriones wins.

viii) Spear-throwing Two prizes are set out. Agamemnon and Meriones come forward. Agamemnon's superiority is acknowledged by Achilleus without there being a contest.

BOOK XXIV

- | | | |
|---------|----|---|
| 1-140 | a) | Achilleus's continued maltreating of Hektor's body offends the gods and Zeus, through Thetis, orders Achilleus to give the body back. |
| 141-328 | b) | Zeus, through Iris, tells Priam to ransom Hektor's body. Despite Hekabe's protests, Priam makes his preparations and sets out. |
| 329-467 | c) | Hermes, sent by, Zeus guides Priam to Achilleus. |
| 468-676 | d) | The scene in the tent of Achilleus |
| 677-804 | e) | Priam returns to Troy with Hektor's body. There is lamentation for Hektor followed by his burial. |

a) Achilleus, being unable to sleep, continues to mourn Patroklos and to maltreat Hektor's body. An argument among the gods about the treatment of Hektor's body is resolved by Zeus. Thetis is to be summoned and Iris fetches her. Zeus tells Thetis to go to Achilleus and to tell him to give back Hektor's body. This she does.

b) Zeus sends Iris to Priam to tell him to go to Achilles and ransom Hektor, taking gifts for Achilles with him. Priam makes preparation. Hekabe is very bitter against Achilles and she tells Priam that he is made to go. Priam however has confidence in Zeus and gathers gifts for Achilles. Priam scolds everyone and some of his sons scurry about getting the wagon ready. At Hekabe's suggestion, Priam prays to Zeus for an omen and Zeus sends an eagle.

c) Zeus sends Hermes to escort Priam to Achilles. Hermes disguises himself as a young man and expresses concern for Priam's safety, at night near the Greeks and conveying treasures. He admits to be a Myrmidon and assures Priam that Hektor's body is being protected by the god. Hermes escorts Priam to Achilles and, on arrival, reveals his identity to Priam and then returns to Olympus.

d) Priam clasps Achilles's knees as a suppliant and asks to ransom Hektor, Achilles receives Priam courteously and they weep together. He raises Priam from his position and offers him a chair. He speaks of the good and bad fortune which Zeus dispenses to mankind. Priam refuses the chair, being anxious to conclude the ransom. Achilles, fearing that he may lose his self-control, leaves Priam and sees to the arrangements. (Hektor's body is washed, anointed with oil and wrapped in clothing). Achilles returns to Priam and they take supper (Achilles cites the example of Niobe). Priam then asks for a bed and Achilles arranges it. They agree to a period of truce to cover the mourning and burial of Hektor. Priam sleeps in the porch's shelter.

e) Hermes wakens Priam, urging him to make the return journey. Hermes escorts Priam to the crossing-place of the river Xanthos. Cassandra rouses the whole city to greet Priam and Hektor. Hekabe and Andromache are in the forefront of the mourners. Hektor's body is laid in the palace. There is lamentation for Hektor from:

- i) Andromache, his wife. She is concerned for the future, and particularly what will happen to their son.
- ii) Hekabe, his mother. She admits that Hektor was her dearest son.
- iii) Helen, his sister-in-law. She speaks of Hektor's kindness towards her.

Acting on Priam's orders, the Trojans gather timber, make a pyre and burn Hektor's body. The next day they quench the pyre with wine, gather the bones, place them in a casket and bury it. A funeral feast is held in Priam's palace.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR HOMERIC LITERATURE

1. DATES

The Iliad appears to have been composed around 750 B.C.

It is a 'historical' poem, referring to events which supposedly took place 400 years earlier; 1150 B.C.

The earliest surviving copy is from about 900 A.D., although various scraps of papyrus containing parts of the poem survive from a much earlier date.

The Greeks supposed that the world was running down, and divided world history into four periods:

1. GOLD
2. SILVER
3. BRONZE
4. IRON

Homer regarded himself as living in the Iron age, and the events he was writing about as taking place in the 'Heroic Age', a transitional stage between the Bronze Age and the Iron Age.

2. HEROISM

The best practical DEFINITION of a Hero is 'One who is close to the Gods'. The Heroic Age was the last occasion during which men and gods had the intimate relationship depicted in Homeric poems.

SPELLING:	Singular	HERO
	Plural	HEROES
	Possessive	HERO'S
	Adjective	HEROIC

Heroes see TWO things: VIRTUE and HONOUR.

VIRTUE (cf Latin 'vir'-man) VIRTUOSITY (skill); PROWESS; MASCULINITY;
not 'goodness' in a Christian sense.

HONOUR (cf 'Your honour'); courage, skill = REPUTATION, 'What others think of you'; not 'keeping your word', etc.

'HEROES' is a class term for the entire Aristocracy.

THEREFORE 'HEROES' CAN ALSO BE VILLAINS, COWARDS, ETC

Example of Heroic aspiration (Iliad VI 476; Hektor about his son):

Zeus, and you other immortals, grant that this boy, who is my son,
May be as I am, pre-eminent among the Trojans,
Great in strength as I am, and rule strongly over Ilium;
And some day let them say of him 'He is better by far than his father.'
As he comes in from the fighting; and let him kill his enemy
And bring home the blooded spoils, and delight the heart of his mother.

- NB:
- i) Reputation; 'Let people say of him...'
 - ii) Total lack of modesty; 'as I am....'
 - iii) Honour resides in the family; 'than his father...'
 - iv) Ability made concrete in TROPHIES; 'blooded spoils'.

These are the virtues of a WARRIOR culture; it is not at present supposed that Homer was himself a warrior, or a member of such a society.

How to settle a quarrel

It is practically impossible for a Hero to retreat without losing Honour. Polydamus correctly advises Hektor in Bk.13 (pp.264-5) that his attack on the Achean Wall is bound to fail. In return Hektor calls him a windbag (232); a coward (244); a defeatist (249) and threatens to kill him (250).

There is NO EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF STRATEGY; it's a matter of QUARRELS, THREATS, and ARGUMENTS, with the man winning who has the highest reputation.

Even NESTOR, the great talker, is not exactly a PLANNER; he only BOLSTERS or CONFIRMS an extant opinion that such-and-such is the best course to take.

WHAT COUNTS IS PERSONAL STATUS, not whether you happen to be right.

Since VALUES, PLACE and PRIVILEGE are mapped out, a Hero really has no choice of action; even when they DO seem to choose, they don't really!

Example: HEKTOR 'deciding' whether to confront Achilles (Iliad XXII 99):

If I go now inside the wall and the gateway,
Polydamus will be first to put a reproach upon me
Since he tried to make me lead the Trojans inside the city...
I feel shame that before the Trojans and the Trojan women with trailing
Robes, someone who is less of a man than I am will say of me:
'Hektor believed in his own strength and ruined his people'.
Thus they will speak; and as for me, it would be much better
At that time, to go against Achilles, and slay him, and come back,
Or else be killed by him in glory in front of the City.
Or if again I...
Go out as I am to meet Achilles the blameless,
and promise to give back Helen, and with her all her possessions...
Yet still, why does the heart in me debate on these things?
I might go up to him, and he take no pity on me,
Nor respect my position, but kill me, naked so...
Better to bring on the fight with him as soon as it may be;
We shall see to which one the Olympian grants the glory.

3. ETHICS

Honour is:

- a) EXCLUSIVE: If everybody has the same amount of Honour, nobody as any.
- b) COMPETITIVE: Trying to establish one's self above everyone, even one's own side.
- c) HIERARCHIC: Mathematical; 'he is worth two of him; he is worth a dozen of them.
- d) DIVIDED INTO 'LEAGUES' So that a member of one 'league' will think it beneath his dignity to fight a member of another; and the other in turn will refuse to fight him in a higher group (NOT just 'cowardice'). See the way Aeneas and Achilles refuse at first to fight in Iliad XX.
- e) CONCRETE AND MEASURABLE: Hence the violent details in the killings and the deliberate collection of trophies and spoils.
- f) ALL IMPORTANT: VICTORY WITHOUT HONOUR IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

4. GIFTS

You give gifts to your friends because:

- a. It persuades them to stay your friends.
- b. It places them under an obligation to you.
- c. It cements various political arrangements (no documentation in Homer)
- d. Gifts are currency.
- e. What you give shows how much you are worth.

STATUS TRAVELS. It goes from the person to his possessions, and hence to his gifts. This explains the tedious genealogies given of where gifts come from. Consider differences between a Parker 51 from a shop and a Parker 51 'personally presented to me by Lady Diana'.

ALL MATERIAL OBJECTS HAVE AN EFFECT UPON STATUS DISPLAYS.

io. You can use them to REASSURE others you are an honourable man:
Example: Idomeneus to Meriones (Iliad XIII 260):

You will find one spear, and twenty spears if you want them.
Standing against the shining inward wall in my shelter.
They are Trojan spears that I win from men that I kill....

(Meriones replies: XIII 267):

For me also, beside my shelter...
There are many spoils of the Trojans, but not where I can get them....

STATUS OF FRIENDSHIP MEASURABLE IN TERMS OF GIFTS

eg use of prize in Funeral Games by Achilles to placate Agamemnon:

Son of Atreus, because we knew how much you surpass all others...

Take this prize and keep it and go back to you ships.

(Iliad XXIII 890: Agamemnon does not compete to get the prize)

As per the 'Parker 51' example above, it's therefore essential that the giving and receiving of gifts, prizes, etc., is done personally and in public: Cf. the arrangements in Book 19 for settling the feud.

DISPUTES SETTLED IN THREE WAYS;

- i. Arbitration (among one's equals)
- ii) Taking an oath (in which case the Gods will punish any liars)
- iii) Trial by combat.

All three may be seen in Book XXIII, 574, 584, 554.

Naturally disputes must be settled in PUBLIC, so that there are witnesses.
This is one of the main functions of an ASSEMBLY (Bk 19)

AN ASSEMBLY DOES NOT VOTE. This is not a Democracy

Witnesses, because there is no reading or writing, hence no documentation.

Leaders may use the assembly to test the temperature, but still chose to ignore its actions (cf, the opinion in favour of Achilles in Bk 1).

Homer probably, his audience probably, and the people he was writing about definitely, were illiterate? [own opinion]

eg ILIAD VII Duel between Aias and Hektor, choosing a champion:

'Each of these marked his own lot... (It is chosen and) a Herald carried it round... Each (Hero) in turn denied it when he failed to recognise it as his own mark...(but) Aias recognised it as his own mark and rejoiced.

The above is clear evidence that they could not recognise each other's marks, i.e. that they could not write their own names.

BARDS ('Rhapsodes') are important, as travelling entertainers.

'Who would give hospitality to a stranger unless it were a prophet, a doctor, a shipwright, or a minstrel whose songs might give pleasure? For all the world over, such guests are these are welcomed' (Ody. XVII 382)

BARDS are given a kind of 'journalistic immunity'.

'Respect and pity me. You will repent it later if you kill a minstrel like me, who sings for Gods and man. I had no teacher but myself. All kinds of songs spring unpremeditated to my lips; and I feel that I could sing for you... (Odyssey XXII 347)

In 1934 an illiterate poet from Yugoslavia was recorded as delivering a poem longer than the Iliad. It took 2 weeks, at 4 hours per day.

Naturally it cannot be done word perfect. Hence Repetition of narrative, of epithets, and of messenger's speeches.

In fact it has been calculated that ONE THIRD of the Iliad is in some sense repetition. [AB Parry & Lord - Teller of Tales
Highly Specialised]

ACHILLEUS

Epithets Swift-footed/of the swift feet
 godlike
 brilliant

Doings:

I 54ff quarrel with Agamemnon; withdraws
IX 182ff received embassy; rejects them
 three speeches 308-429; 607-619; 644-655
XI 598ff sends Patroklos to Nestor
XVI 2ff he allows Patroklos to fight in his place
XVIII 2ff he hears of Patroklos's death
 202ff he returns to the fight unarmed
 478ff his new shield, made by Hephamistos
XIX 54ff he announces an end to his anger
 365ff he arms himself
XX 156ff he confronts Aineias
 353ff his ARISTEIA begins
XXI 1f his aristeia continues, including his fight v the
 river Xanthos
XXII 131ff duel v Hektor. He kills Hektor
XXIII 1f he supervises the funereal rites of Patroklos and the
 games in his honour.
XXIV 468ff he received Priam and gives him Hektor's body.

Character

He is the greatest Greek warrior with the great advantage of a goddess mother and supported by Athene. He is a proud man and once he has made a stand, he will not back down. His anger v Agamemnon clouds his judgement and causes him to make mistakes.

AGAMEMNON

Epithets: Atreus' son/son of Atreus
 wide-ruling
 the lord of men
 powerful

Doings

I 1ff quarrel with Achilleus
II 1ff according to an evil dream he tests his men
 477ff in the catalogue, compared to a bull
III 267ff takes the oath for the Greeks before duel
 455ff claims victory in duel for Menelaos
IV 223ff review of the army
IX 9ff suggests going home
 115ff announces compensation for Achilleus
XI 92ff aristeia; wounded and withdraws
XIV 28ff suggests going home
XIX 40ff public reconciliation with Achilleus

Character

The Greek commander-in-chief. He is not wholly sure of himself and feels the need for his position constantly to be acknowledged. He is a competent fighter and he has genuine care for his army.

DIOMEDES

Epithets: strong
of the great war cry
breaker of horses
the powerful
high-spirited

Doings:

IV 401ff Epipoleis; scolded by Agamemnon
V 166ff Aristeia - wounds Aineias, Aphrodite and Ares
VI 119ff Encounter with Glaukos
IX 693ff Proposes ignoring Achilleus
X 219ff Doloneia with Odysseus
XI 375ff Wounded by Paris and withdraws
XXIII 575ff Winner of the Chariot race
681ff Euryalos's second in the boxing
801ff Fight in armour v Telamonian Aias

Character:

Second only to Achilleus as a fighter on the Greek side. He acts as an 'Achilleus substitute' until Achilleus returns. He shows respect for Agamemnon, his commander. He is always eager for action (e.g. the Doloneia), even when wounded.

MENELAOS

Epithets: of the great war cry
the warlike
Atreus's son
of the fair hair

Doings:

III 21ff-
110 & 339ff the duel v Paris
IV 92ff wounded by Pandaros
V 561ff helped by Antilochos v Aineias
VI 37ff tempted to spare Adrestos for ransom
VII 94ff offers to fight v Hektor - Agamemnon refuses
XI 461ff with Aias helps Odysseus
XVII 6ff fighting round Patroklos's body
651ff sends Antilochos to Achilleus
XXIII 293ff in the chariot race - comes third

Character:

One of the weaker fighters, regularly protected by the other Greek leaders. He feels a responsibility for the whole war. He is kind-hearted and always ready to help his friends to the best of his ability.

AINEIAS

Epithets: lord of men
 lord of the Trojans' (counsels)
 great-hearted

Doings:

II 819ff. in the catalogue
V 166ff. wounded by Diomedes; rescued by Aphrodite and later Apollo
XII leads one of the 5 Trojan divisions attacking the Greek wall.
XIII 459ff. fights v Idomeneus
XX 75ff. encounter with Achilles
 302ff. his destiny, rescued by Poseidon

Character:

From a minor branch of the Trojan royal family. Second only to Hektor among the Trojans. He has the advantage of having a goddess, Aphrodite, for a mother, who watches over him and will intervene on his behalf.

HEKTOR

Epithets: tall
 illustrious
of the shining helm

Doings:

III 38ff. scolds Paris; arranges the duel
VI 237ff. in Troy; three visits
VII 44ff. duel v Telamonian Aias - night intervenes
XII 80ff. organises the attack on the Greek wall
XVI 712ff. kills Patroklos
XXII 131ff. duel with Achilles and death
XXIV 468ff. Priam ransoms his body; laments

Character:

The best Trojan fighter. A man of action who relies on others for advice and does not always take it. He has warm family relationships and he was kind even to Helen.

PARIS/ALEXANDROS

Epithets: brilliant
godlike

Doings:

III 324ff duel with Menelaos
VI 313ff Hektor's second visit in Troy
 503ff returns to the battlefield
VII 354ff refuses to give Helen back
XI 369ff wounds Diomedes, Machaon, Eurypylos
XII 93ff leads one of the five Trojan divisions against the Greek wall
XIII 490ff) plays his part in the fighting
 765ff)

Character:

He is concerned primarily with himself. He is vain, conceited and attractive to women, and conscious of this. He knows he has caused trouble for the Trojans and accepts criticism from Hektor. (III and VI) He is a competent fighter. He is weak, unpredictable and self-centred.

- Bk. 1 : Apollo's plague. Achilles appeals to Thetis.
Thetis' plea to Zeus. Hera, Zeus and Hephaistos.
- Bk. 3 : Aphrodite saves Paris.
Aphrodite and Helen.
- Bk. 4 : Zeus, Hera and Athene.
Athene prompts Pandorus to break the truce.
- Bk. 5 : Aphrodite and Apollo save Ainaias' wounded by Diomedes.
Aphrodite wounded by Dio. and saved by Ares.
Aphrodite comforted by Dione. Comforted/advised by Zeus.
Hera and Athene in chariot go to Dio.
Athene and Dio would Ares.
- Bk. 7 end: Poseidon objects to Zeus at Achaian s' building of wall (honour)
- Bk. 8 : p184. Zeus' scales.
Hera and Athena discuss and mount chariot. p191.
Zeus sends Iris to order them to return p193.
Athene sulks at Zeus. He reproves her. p194-5.
- Bk. 12 : Poseidon and Apollo will destroy the Achaian wall after the war. p258
- Bk. 13 : Poseidon goes to Achaians (1-38)
Poseidon rallies to Achaians (65-125)
- Bk. 14 : Hera seduces Zeus (153-351)
Poseidon urges on the Achaians (352-378)
- Bk. 15 : Zeus wakes. Rebukes Hera. Explains that Achilles will allow
Patroclos to fight, that Hektor will kill Patroclos, that Achilles
will kill Hektor, and that Troy will be taken.
Hera, Themis etc. (78-262)
Apollo inspires Hektor - fights with Trojans (236-365)
Hektor rushes for a vessal and "from behind Zeus was pushing
him onward hard with this big hand" (694-95) (also elsewhere)
- Bk. 16 : Zeus Wants to save Sarpedon. Hera restrain's him.
Zeus "wept tears of blood" for his son, Sarpedon p342
Apollo heals Glaucos' wound p344
Zeus watches fight over Sarpedon's body, and debates when and how
Patroclos should be killed (644ff)
Apollo sent to save Sarpedon's body (Sleep and Death)
Apollo prevents Patroclos from sealing the walls (698)
Apollo urges Hektor to Kill Patroclos. (720)
Apollo disarms Patroclos. (790 ff)
- Bk. 17 : Zeus grieves for Hektor's coming death. (198-208)
Zeus grieves for Achilles' weeping horses. (444-455)
Athene with Menelaus. Apollo by Hektor. p368 and 369
- Bk. 18 : Thetis and Nereids mourn Patroclos p376
Thetis goes to Achilles. Thetis to Hephaistos (368 ff)
The ARMOUR
- Bk. 19 : Thetis and Achilles (1-36)
Story of Hera's deception of Zeus over Heracles' birth
Told by Agamemnon (78-135) (Delusion)
Zeus sends Athene to Achilles to instil ambrosia into his breast. p401

- Bk. 20 : Zeus orders an Assembly and tells the gods to go to fight otherwise Achilles will carry all before him. p404-8
Poseidon saves Ainaia's from Achilles p412-13
Apollo saves Hektor from Achilles p416
- Bk. 21 : Achilles fights the River Skamandros p424
Hera sends Hephaistos to help Achilles. p427
Gods fight each other p428-432
- Bk. 22 : Hek, fleeing from Ach. Zeus is sad for Hektor p439
Zeus and Athene. Athene goes to battlefield. Zeus' Scales go against Hektor. Athene disguised as Deiphobos deceives Hektor.
- Bk. 23 : Aphrodite preserves Hektor's body from dogs.)
Apollo preserves Hektor's body from sun.) p455
and Aphrodite anoints body with oil to preserve it from tearing.)
Winds appealed to set Pat's funeral pyre alight.)
Apollo snatches whip from Diomedes' hands in chariot race) p460
Athene gives it back and smashes Eumelos' Chariot)
Athene unbalances Aia's in footrace p471
- Bk. 24 : The gods distressed at Ach's treatment of Hek's body. p475
Apollo appeals for body
Zeus sends Iris to fetch Thetis. Zeus sends Thetis to Ach.
Thetis asks Ach. to give up body for ransom p478
- Bk. 24 : Zeus sends Iris to Priam. p479-80
Zeus sends Hermes to guide Priam. p483-84
Hermes and Priam p484 - 87
Hermes wakes Priam p493. End.

NB: I have omitted prayers, sacrifice s, omens, dreams etc.

NB: These pages are only for reference. For the significance you will need to work this out for yourselves.

NB: Gods, as well as heroes, are concerned about "Honour".

HONOUR:

- depended on 1. Prowess on battlefield
2. Amount of material possessions i.e. from booty and gifts

A few important references:

- Bk. 1: The Quarrel
Bk. 6: Hektor to Andromache
Bk. 9: Achilles (308-429)
Bk. 12: Sarpedon
Bk. 11: Odysseus (401-410)
Bk. 22: Hektor (98 ff)

GODS

- anthropomorphic and immortal
- ambrosia, nectar; ichor for blood
- live on Mount Olympus.
- interfere as they want, not obliged
- do all with ease, compliment if help
- adds extra glamour + glory
- not reasonable, accountable
- win favour by prayers, sacrifice, but no guarantee
- Zeus all powerful, final say, = fate
- gods not behave silly before humans

2 types:

- Olympian gods, eg Hera, Athene, etc
- Ate (delusion), hate, rumour, fear.

Ways of interference

- help in fighting, brush off spears
- rescue people
- deceive, eg evil dream, Pandaros by Athene, Hektor
- disguise themselves as mortal
- put ideas into minds, act as conscience
- make limbs light
- fill you with emotions, eg strength, spirit, purpose, panic.
- prayers; we know if they listen
- never back a losing hero, eg Hektor

HEROIC CODE

- honour their chief concern in life
- honour (their standing in others' eyes) more important than life
- gain most honour in battle
- heroic code - behaviour/motivation - understood by all
- *aristeia* - gives honour
- kill someone/strip armour; more possessions more honour
- honour won in games; also while eating, passed food first
- giving gifts increases honour, as
- does repairing insults with gifts
- fight for selves, not for country

Achilles wants Trojan success; his honour is more important than his Greek friends; questions heroic code

- you'll die anyway, why fight when dishonoured

- what's more important: gifts or your life?
- wants Ag to be as humiliated as him

Ach is in wrong because of state of mind; error of judgement re Patroklos

- heroes can't cry.

ORAL POETRY

- bard must be skilful
- nothing written in advance to learn
- performed for audiences, a new play at each performance
- ask them which story, adapt it to time available, and give surprises
- must not dry up
- composition to fixed pattern/metre
- keep attention
- revise certain passages.

Repetition of

- description of sacrifice
- eating and serving of food
- whole passages, eg relating message, only pronouns changed, eg listing of gifts to Achilles
- stock lines: complete lines
- epithets: swift ship, not just ship

SIMILES

- emphasise
- draw attention
- build up
- comparison to everyday life
- make fighting more interesting.

INTEREST IN THE FIGHTING

- told history of person killed
- similes
- method of killing
- someone begging for life, bribes
- gods' interventions
- armour stripped
- last speeches while wounded
- audience aware of someone's fate
- duels, conversations
- Glaukos and Diomedes
- whole group, eg on Greek wall
- death in quick succession
- *aristeia*
- genealogy
- lists of deaths
- sometimes major character versus major character, sometimes minor versus minor
- not much mass fighting.