**Book 13:**

1. How do Poseidon and Zeus interact in this book? What is the balance of power between them?
2. How does Zeus assert his authority? How does Poseidon assert his displeasure?
3. How does Odysseus first feel as he lands on Ithaca?
4. How much does he tell the "shepherd" he meets about his true identity and intentions?
5. Does he change when he realizes it is Athena? How does she react to his caution?
6. How do the actions Odysseus takes compare with those he takes in the stories he has told? Does the fact that he has at this point no crew affect the way acts?
7. Where is Athena going at the end of the book? How does she help him at this point?

**Book 14:**

1. How is the swineherd (Eumaeus) connected to Odysseus?
2. What is the prediction about Odysseus that the stranger swears "on my oath" to Eumaeus?
3. How does Eumaeus react to this information?
4. Odysseus tells the swineherd he is from what kind of background? Suffered what kind of hardships?
5. How does Eumaeus react to Odysseus' story?
6. Who gets the "boar's long loin . . . the cut of honor" in Eumaeus' shelter?
7. Why does Odysseus say, "I'm not long for the living. The cold will do me in./ See, I've got no cloak."

**Book 15:**

1. Why is Telemachus awake when Athena comes upon him?
2. How does the beginning of this book compare to the ending of Book 14?
3. How does Telemachus' departure from Sparta parallel Odysseus' departure from Phaecia?
4. Who gives going away presents to Telemachus? What does this signify?
5. What is the portent which precedes Telemachus' departure?
6. Who is unsure of how to interpret it? Who knows how to interpret it? How does the portent resemble the earlier portent in Book 2 that is interpreted by Halitherses?
7. Why does Telemachus not want to revisit Nestor? How does Pisistratus react to this?
8. Who is Theoclymenus? What portent does he interpret?
9. How does Odysseus test Eumaeus?
10. What aspect of Eumaeus' story causes Odysseus to say, "You've moved my heart deeply."
11. How does Telemachus distinguish Eurymachus among the suitors? Who suggested he do this?

**Book 16:**

1. How does Eumaeus greet Telemachus?
2. What errand is Eumaeus sent on?
3. Why does Odysseus reveal his identity to Telemachus?
4. How does Odysseus' look when he reveals himself to his son?
5. How does Telemachus react when Odysseus identifies himself?
6. What are the three major points of strategy in the plan which Odysseus tells to Telemachus?
7. How does Odysseus' look when he reveals himself to his son?
8. What does Antinous try to get the suitors to do?
9. Who offers a different perspective?
10. How does Penelope learn of what the suitors are thinking?
11. How does Penelope react to this information?
12. Which of the suitors attempts to reassure her?

**Book 17:**

1. Why compare Penelope to "Artemis or golden Aphrodite" when she comes down the stairs?
2. What does Telemachus leave out of his "true" story when he talks to Penelope; what does he leave in? How does Theoclymenus contribute to the scene?
3. Where has Argos been lying in the absence of his master?
4. What is Odysseus' reaction to seeing Argos?
5. How does Odysseus handle his "humiliation"? Does he seem more at ease with it than Eumaeus and Telemachus? If so, why?
6. Who throws a footstool at Odysseus? Why do even the other suitors take exception to this?
7. Why does Penelope want to talk to the stranger?

**Book 18:**

1. Why does Irus quarrel with "the stranger?"
2. What is Antinous' reaction to the unfriendly words Irus speaks to Odysseus?
3. What is the prize for the beggar who wins the fight?
4. Has Telemachus fully reached manhood yet? Why is this important? What is the symbol of manhood?
5. Who is Penelope's father?
6. What is the implication of the maids' inappropriate behavior?