Group Discussion Assignment:
25 minutes

• The intervention of the gods in the lives of the mortal characters in the *Odyssey* takes a variety of forms. Sometimes the gods cause destruction, while sometimes they assist their favorites.
• Group A pick an example of the former (destruction);
• Group B pick an example of the latter (assistance).

Group Discussion Assignment: Part 1
• Paragraph responses, recorded by group scribe:
  – Describe your chosen example briefly, citing book and line numbers, and answering the following questions.
  – What is the god’s goal in intervening? Does the god succeed?
  – What might your chosen episode tell you about ancient Greek ideas about the role of the gods in the lives of mortals?

Group Discussion Assignment: Part 2
• As a counterpoint to your example of divine intervention, select one instance from books 5-8 in which Homer presents an example of human ingenuity or human emotion that gives us a closer look at the epic poem on a human scale.