



## Odyssey 6.85-331: Resources for further study and discussion

### Section Summaries

This table should be used to help you read and summarize the text in small sections. Read each section carefully, then summarize it in a sentence and pick out a couple of Greek phrases which sum up the section.

Lines	Summary	Greek quotations	Study questions
85-98	Nausicaa and her attendants arrive at the washing tanks; they wash their clothes and lay them on the shore to dry while they eat a meal.	<i>ταὶ δ' ἀπ' ἀπήνης / εἴματα χερσὶν ἔλοντο καὶ ἐσφόρουν μέλαν ὕδωρ ...</i> <i>αἱ δὲ λοεσσάμεναι καὶ χρυσάμεναι λίπ' ἐλαίῳ / δεῖπνον ἔπειθ' εἴλοντο παρ' ὄχθησιν ποταμοῖο ...</i>	What impression of Phaeacia do we get from the description of the landscape and shore? How happily do you imagine Nausicaa and her attendants going about their work?
99-118			What is the effect of the comparison with Artemis? What does the knowledge that Odysseus is nearby add to this scene?
119-144			Why does Odysseus react this way to his waking in a foreign land? How does the simile add to the tension of the scene? How many ways can you think of to contrast Odysseus with the Phaeacian girls?
145-169			Why does Odysseus decide to approach Nausicaa in this way? How else could he have done it? How do you think Odysseus's words about potential marriage (158-159) would have affected Nausicaa?



170-185			<p>What does Odysseus choose to share with Nausicaa? Why do you think he only shares this limited information?</p> <p>Again, why does Odysseus return to the theme of marriage (182-185)?</p>
186-210			<p>What impression of Nausicaa's character do we get from her response?</p> <p>What contrast is drawn between Nausicaa and her attendants?</p>
211-235			<p>What physical and visual descriptions are we given about Odysseus's washing and anointing himself?</p> <p>How do you imagine Odysseus's enhanced appearance would be portrayed in a film version of this scene?</p>
236-250			<p>What does Nausicaa say about Odysseus in these lines?</p> <p>How has Odysseus's luck changed since the start of this episode, and how do you imagine he is feeling now?</p>
251-272			<p>Why does Nausicaa in line 263 interrupt her instructions to Odysseus?</p> <p>What does she talk about for the next fifteen lines, and what effect does it have on the audience to have her speech structured in this way?</p>
273-288			<p>What can we infer about what Nausicaa is really thinking from the criticism she imagines she will get from the Phaeacian townspeople?</p> <p>Similarly, what can we tell from her words at lines 286-288?</p>



289-302			<p>How do Nausicaa's hopes for Odysseus at lines 290 fit with the theme of marriage in this book?</p> <p>What is the effect of Nausicaa describing the town and palace in so much detail?</p>
303-315			<p>What contrast does Nausicaa draw between what her mother and father will each be doing in the palace?</p> <p>How does this section contribute to the picture of gender in Phaeacia?</p>
316-331			<p>What is the effect of the grove being sacred to Athena in particular?</p> <p>How optimistic is the reader that Odysseus will reach home after reading lines 328-331?</p>