**English 11/12 Honors: Tolkien Name:**

**Mr. Fisher**

***The Odyssey* Study Guide #6: Books #9-10**

*Please answer the following questions in* ***complete sentences****.**If I feel the answers make no sense, I reserve the right to deny credit. Otherwise, a “check” equals a 10/10, a “check plus” equals a 12/10, and a “check minus” equals a 6/10. Skipped questions will lead to an automatic “check minus,” so I strongly encourage you to try to answer them all!*

1. Describe the island of the lotus eaters. What happened to Odysseus’s men who ate the fruit? What did Odysseus do to “save” them? What modern “tragic situation” does this sound a lot like? Would Odysseus’s solution work well today? Why or why not?
2. After the cyclops first realizes that Odysseus and his men are in his cave, what does Odysseus say to him? Logically, what was the flaw of his argument? Why didn’t it work on the cyclops?
3. Odysseus’s victory over the cyclops, Polyphemus, is considered a perfect example of Odysseus’s best and worst qualities. Please explain which qualities are shown in this episode (both good and bad), and how they are shown.
4. What gifts does Aeolus give Odysseus? What causes Odysseus’s men to squander this gift? What could Odysseus have done to prevent this from happening?
5. What sort of character is Circe? Why (aside from her magic) is she able to turn Odysseus' men into swine? What have they done to offend her, or what weakness do they show?
6. Why does Odysseus stay with Circe for a year? Why didn’t he leave her to find his way home? Was he wrong for sleeping with her in the first place (he is a married man, after all)? Why or why not?
7. Considering the end of Book 10 and the news of Elpinor’s death, what predictions do you have for Book 11? Why?