Jonathan Quang

Period 8

HW #63

Telemachus is irritated at his mother because she has not warmed up to Odysseus after he finally reveals himself to her when Telemachus knows Penelope loves Odysseus a great deal. Instead, Penelope took a seat facing Odysseus and had nothing to say. Homer writes, ''Why do you [Penelope] spurn my (Telemachus') father... engage him, ask him questions...What other wife could have a spirit so unbending? Holding back from her husband home at last for her after bearing twenty years of brutal struggle,"' (Book 23 Lines 111-115). Telemachus is scolding Penelope for not showing love she clearly has. If someone abstains from remarrying for twenty years because they believe their significant other will come back, they certainly have a great deal of love. Yet, Penelope refuses to act on her love.  
 Odysseus wants those outside the palace to believe that a wedding-feast is about to happen. He states, "'...tell the maids in the hall to dress well too, and let the inspired bard take up his ringing lyre..whoever hears the strains outside the gates... will think it's a wedding-feast that's under way, "' (Book 23 Lines 150-155). Odysseus plans to fancy up what everyone is wearing in the palace and wants music to be played. To any ordinary person with no knowledge of what happened beyond the palace walls, hearing music and seeing people dressed nicely probably means there is some feast or party of some kind.