

Vocabulary in *Illiad*

Compiled by AcadeMe for the Homer Project

May 2016

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| moor | v. | to hold (a boat or ship) in place with ropes or cables or with an anchor <i>We found a harbor and moored the boat there for the night.</i> |
| surge | v. | to move very quickly and suddenly in a particular direction <i>We all surged toward the door.</i> |
| ripple | v. | to move in small waves <i>Water rippled under the dock.</i> |
| descend | v. | to go down :to go or move from a higher to a lower place or level <i>Wait for the elevator to descend.</i> |
| jam | v. | to fill (a place) completely <i>Thousands of people jammed the hall. = The hall was jammed [=jammed, packed] with thousands of people.</i> |
| wrap | v. | to cover (something) by winding or folding a piece of material around it <i>They were busy wrapping presents late on Christmas Eve.</i> |
| heartsick | adj. | very sad or disappointed <i>They were absolutely heartsick over/about the loss of their home.</i> |
| sneak | v. | to move quietly and secretly in order to avoid being noticed <i>They tried to sneak into the movie without paying.</i> |
| sack | v. | to dismiss (someone) from a job <i>They sacked [=fired] her for always being late.</i> |
| muster | v. | to work hard to find or get (courage, support, etc.) <i>They pushed the car with all the strength they could muster.</i> |
| furl | v. | to wrap or roll (something, such as a sail or a flag) close to or around something <i>They furled the sails.</i> |
| seashore | n. | the land along the edge of the sea that is usually covered with sand or rocks <i>They built a house near the seashore.</i> |
| boast | v. | to express too much pride in yourself or in something you have, have done, or are connected to in some way <i>They boasted to their friends about their son's salary.</i> |
| appease | v. | to make (someone) pleased or less angry by giving or saying something desired <i>They appeased the dictator by accepting his demands in an effort to avoid war.</i> |
| perverse | adj. | wrong or different in a way that others feel is strange or offensive <i>their perverse cruelty to animals</i> |
| afar | adv. | from a great distance <i>Their fans come from afar [=from far away] to watch them play.</i> |
| destine | v. | to decree beforehand :predetermine <i>the younger son was destined for the priesthood</i> |
| moan | v. | to make a long, low sound because of pain, unhappiness, or physical pleasure <i>The wounded soldier moaned in/with pain.</i> |

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| groan | v. | to make a deep sound because of pain or some strong emotion (such as grief or disappointment) <i>The wounded man groaned in/with pain.</i> |
| rot | v. | to slowly decay or cause (something) to decay <i>The wood had rotted away.</i> |
| rattle | v. | to hit against something repeatedly and make a quick series of short, loud sounds <i>The window rattled as the truck drove by.</i> |
| scatter | v. | to cause (things or people) to separate and go in different directions <i>The wind scattered the pile of leaves.</i> |
| cascade | v. | to flow or hang down in large amounts <i>The water cascades over the rocks.</i> |
| plunder | v. | to steal things from (a place, such as a city or town) especially by force <i>The village was plundered by the invading army.</i> |
| foam | v. | to produce foam <i>The soda foamed in the glass.</i> |
| hulk | n. | the main part of something (such as a ship, car, or building) that has been ruined and is no longer used <i>The ship's rusting hulk is still visible on the rocks.</i> |
| sacral | adj. | of, relating to, or lying near the <i>the sacral region of the spinal cord</i> |
| reverberation | n. | a sound that echoes <i>the reverberations of her voice</i> |
| hiss | v. | to produce a sound like a long s :to make a hiss <i>The radiator hissed as it let off steam.</i> |
| summon | v. | to order (someone) to come to a place <i>The queen summoned him back to the palace.</i> |
| disembark | v. | to leave a ship or airplane <i>The plane's crew members were the last ones to disembark.</i> |
| armor | n. | special clothing that people wear to protect their bodies from weapons <i>The officers are required to wear bulletproof body armor.</i> |
| vow | v. | to make a serious promise to do something or to behave in a certain way often followed by to + verb <i>The mayor vowed to reduce crime.</i> |
| immortal | adj. | not capable of dying :living forever <i>the immortal soul</i> |
| crag | n. | a high and very steep area of rock on a mountain or cliff <i>The goat stood on the mountain crag.</i> |
| assent | v. | to agree to or approve of something (such as an idea or suggestion) especially after carefully thinking about it <i>The general proposed a detailed plan and the President assented.</i> |
| incalculable | adj. | not able to be calculated: such as <i>The extent of the damage is incalculable.</i> |
| profiteer | n. | the act of making money by selling things at very high prices at a time when they are hard to get <i>The company was accused of profiteering during the crisis.</i> |
| mull | v. | to think about (something) slowly and carefully :ponder <i>The company is mulling the offer.</i> |
| beachhead | n. | a beach on an enemy's shore that an invading army takes and controls in order to prepare for the arrival of more soldiers and supplies often used figuratively to mean a place or position that serves as a base for future action or progress <i>The company established a beachhead in New York City.</i> |
| atrocious | n. | a very cruel or terrible act or action |

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| | | <i>the atrocities of war</i> |
| stronghold | n. | an area where most people have the same beliefs, values, etc. :an area dominated by a particular group <i>The area/district/state is a Republican stronghold.</i> |
| spear | v. | to push a spear or other pointed object into (something) <i>spear a fish</i> |
| slaughter | v. | to kill (an animal) for food <i>slaughter cattle</i> |
| skewer | v. | to push a skewer through (food) <i>skewer a marshmallow</i> |
| fume | v. | to show or feel anger <i>She's still fuming about/over/at not being invited to the party.</i> |
| spiteful | adj. | having or showing a desire to harm, anger, or defeat someone :having or showing spite <i>She's just being spiteful.</i> |
| furious | adj. | very angry <i>She's furious at/over how slowly the investigation is proceeding.</i> |
| ribbon | n. | a narrow piece of cloth (such as silk) that is used to tie things or for decoration <i>She wore pink ribbons in her hair.</i> |
| wince | v. | to have an expression on your face for a very short time which shows that you are embarrassed or in pain <i>She winced [=grimaced] (in pain) when she hit her elbow.</i> |
| bleed | v. | to lose or release blood because of a cut, injury, etc. <i>She was bleeding from the/her face and hands.</i> |
| swat | v. | to hit (someone or something) with a quick motion <i>She swatted the fly with a magazine.</i> |
| strew | v. | to spread or scatter things over or on the ground or some other surface <i>She strewed the birdseed on the ground.</i> |
| sling | v. | to throw (something) with a forceful sweeping motion <i>She slung the bag over her shoulder.</i> |
| scrub | v. | to rub (something) hard with a rough object or substance and often with soap in order to clean it <i>She scrubbed the potatoes.</i> |
| spit | v. | to force saliva from your mouth <i>She saw him spit on the sidewalk.</i> |
| repress | v. | to not allow yourself to do or express (something) <i>She repressed a laugh. [=she stopped herself from laughing]</i> |
| affliction | n. | something (such as a disease) that causes pain or suffering <i>She lost her sight and is now learning to live with her/the affliction.</i> |
| grab | v. | to quickly take and hold (someone or something) with your hand or arms <i>She grabbed his wrist. = She grabbed him by the wrist.</i> |
| unambiguous | adj. | clearly expressed or understood :not ambiguous <i>She gave a clear, unambiguous answer.</i> |
| shepherd | v. | to guide (someone or something) <i>She carefully shepherded the children across the street.</i> |
| sprout | v. | to produce new leaves, buds, etc. <i>seeds sprouting in the spring</i> |
| slacken | v. | to become slower or less active :to slow down <i>Sales show no sign of slackening.</i> |
| sacrificial | adj. | of, relating to, or involving sacrifice <i>sacrificial rites/rituals/offerings</i> |
| loot | v. | to steal things from (a place, such as a store or house) during a war or after destruction has been caused by fire, rioting, etc. |

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| | | <i>Rioters looted the stores.</i> |
| clash | v. | to be in a situation in which you are fighting or disagreeing :to come into conflict with someone <i>Police and protesters clashed yesterday.</i> |
| plague | v. | to cause constant or repeated trouble, illness, etc., for (someone or something) <i>parasites that plague deer</i> |
| onshore | adj. | moving from an ocean, lake, etc., toward land <i>onshore winds</i> |
| greet | v. | to meet (someone who has just arrived) with usually friendly and polite words and actions :welcome <i>My husband greeted our guests at the door.</i> |
| mist | v. | to become covered with very small drops of water usually + up <i>My glasses misted [=fogged] up when I came in from the cold.</i> |
| murky | adj. | very dark or foggy <i>murky skies</i> |
| murderous | adj. | very violent or deadly <i>murderous machine-gun fire</i> |
| hades | n. | the home of the dead in Greek mythology <i>It's hotter than hades today.</i> |
| unload | v. | to remove something (such as cargo) from a truck, ship, etc. <i>It took four hours to unload the truck.</i> |
| douse | v. | to cause (a fire) to stop burning by pouring or spraying water on it :to extinguish (a fire) with water <i>It took firefighters 15 minutes to douse the blaze.</i> |
| pry | v. | to try to find out about other people's private lives <i>I was curious, but I didn't want to pry.</i> |
| swear | v. | to state (something) very strongly and sincerely <i>I swear (that) I was there. [=I was definitely there; I am telling you the truth when I say that I was there]</i> |
| relish | v. | to enjoy or take pleasure in (something) <i>I relish traveling to new places.</i> |
| fury | n. | violent anger :rage <i>I could see the fury in her eyes.</i> |
| remorse | n. | a feeling of being sorry for doing something bad or wrong in the past :a feeling of guilt <i>I could forgive him for what he did if he showed some remorse.</i> |
| tripe | n. | the stomach of an animal (such as a cow or ox) that is eaten as food <i>How can you watch this tripe? [=rubbish]</i> |
| provoke | v. | to cause the occurrence of (a feeling or action) :to make (something) happen <i>His remarks provoked both tears and laughter.</i> |
| tremble | v. | to shake slightly because you are afraid, nervous, excited, etc. <i>His arms and legs began to tremble.</i> |
| scar | v. | to mark (something) with a scar <i>His arm was badly scarred after the accident.</i> |
| dishonor | v. | to cause (someone or something) to lose honor :to cause (someone or something) to no longer be respected <i>His actions dishonored [=brought dishonor on] the family.</i> |
| prophetic | adj. | correctly stating what will happen in the future <i>Her warning proved to be prophetic. [=the thing that she warned would/could happen did happen]</i> |
| pledge | v. | to formally promise to give or do (something) <i>Her family pledged \$100,000 toward the construction of a new school.</i> |

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| arrogance | n. | an insulting way of thinking or behaving that comes from believing that you are better, smarter, or more important than other people <i>Her arrogance has earned her a lot of enemies.</i> |
| hem | v. | to sew down a folded edge of cloth on (something) :to give (something) a hem <i>hem the dress/skirt/trousers</i> |
| whisper | v. | to speak very softly or quietly <i>He whispered in/into my ear.</i> |
| weep | v. | to cry because you are very sad or are feeling some other strong emotion <i>He wept at the news of her death.</i> |
| accuse | v. | to blame (someone) for something wrong or illegal :to say that someone is guilty of a fault or crime <i>He was unjustly accused.</i> |
| ransom | v. | to pay money in order to free (a person who has been captured or kidnapped) <i>He was held captive for a week before he was ransomed and returned to his family.</i> |
| flay | v. | to beat or whip (someone or something) in a very violent and severe way usually used figuratively <i>He was flayed [=severely criticized] by the media for his thoughtless comments.</i> |
| affront | v. | to do or say something that shows a lack of respect for (someone or someone's feelings) usually used as (be) affronted <i>He was affronted [=insulted, offended] by her rude behavior.</i> |
| uphold | v. | to support or defend (something, such as a law) <i>He took an oath to uphold the Constitution.</i> |
| underling | n. | a person of low rank who works for a more powerful person :subordinate <i>He takes all the credit, but most of the hard work is done by his underlings.</i> |
| irreversible | adj. | impossible to change back to a previous condition or state <i>He suffered an irreversible loss of vision.</i> |
| stow | v. | to put (something that is not being used) in a place where it is available, where it can be kept safely, etc. :store <i>He stowed his gear in a locker.</i> |
| sprinkle | v. | to drop or spread small pieces or amounts of something over something <i>He sprinkled water on the plants.</i> |
| slam | v. | to close (something) in a forceful way that makes a loud noise <i>He slammed the door in my face.</i> |
| sheath | v. | to put (something, such as a sword) into a sheath <i>He sheathed his sword.</i> |
| seethe | v. | to feel or show strong emotion (such as anger) even though you try to control it <i>He seethed at his brother's success.</i> |
| scrap | v. | to get rid of (something) because it is damaged, no longer useful, etc. <i>He scrapped his car after the accident.</i> |
| savor | v. | to enjoy the taste or smell of (something) for as long as possible <i>He savored the aroma of the baking pies.</i> |
| roast | v. | to cook (food such as chicken, potatoes, or beef) with dry heat in an oven or over a fire <i>He roasted the chicken.</i> |
| murmur | v. | to say (something) in a quiet and soft voice <i>He murmured something about having to get home.</i> |
| propitiate | v. | to make (someone) pleased or less angry by giving or saying something desired :appease |

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| | | <i>He made an offering to propitiate the angry gods.</i> |
| surf | v. | to ride on ocean waves using a special board (called a surfboard) <i>He learned to surf when he was living in California.</i> |
| bawl | v. | to cry very loudly <i>He lay on his bed, bawling [=sobbing, wailing] uncontrollably.</i> |
| knot | v. | to tie a section of rope, string, fabric, etc., to itself or to something else so that a knot forms :to make a knot in (something) <i>He knotted his tie so that both ends would be the same length.</i> |
| prowess | n. | great ability or skill <i>He is known for his prowess on the football field.</i> |
| filth | n. | a large and very unpleasant amount of dirt <i>He emerged from the cellar covered in filth.</i> |
| plead | v. | to ask for something in a serious and emotional way <i>He begged and pleaded, but she would not change her mind.</i> |
| curse | v. | to use offensive words when you speak <i>He always starts cursing [=swearing] when he gets drunk.</i> |
| haul | v. | to pull or drag (something) with effort <i>Haul the ropes in. = Haul in the ropes.</i> |
| charcoal | n. | a hard black material that is made by burning wood with a small amount of air <i>hamburgers cooked over charcoal</i> |
| disastrous | adj. | causing great suffering or loss <i>Half the city was destroyed by a disastrous fire.</i> |
| confiscate | v. | to take (something) away from someone especially as punishment or to enforce the law or rules <i>Guards confiscated knives and other weapons from the prisoners.</i> |
| grind | v. | to crush or break (something) into very small pieces by rubbing it against a rough surface or using a special machine <i>Grind (up) the coffee beans into a fine powder.</i> |
| flush | v. | to cause a strong flow of water to clean (a toilet) <i>flush the toilet</i> |
| bulwark | n. | something that provides protection for or against something <i>democratic principles that stand as a bulwark against tyranny</i> |
| decency | n. | polite, moral, and honest behavior and attitudes that show respect for other people <i>Decency, not fear of punishment, caused them to do the right thing.</i> |
| ballistic | adj. | to become very angry <i>Dad went ballistic when he saw the dent in his car.</i> |
| oracle | n. | a person (such as a priestess) through whom a god was believed to speak <i>consulting an oracle</i> |
| scud | v. | to move or go quickly <i>Clouds scudded across the sky.</i> |
| billow | v. | to move as a large cloud or mass <i>Clouds of smoke billowed (up) from the chimney.</i> |
| choke | v. | to become unable to breathe usually because something gets stuck in your throat or because the air is not good for breathing <i>Chew your food well so you don't choke.</i> |
| yearn | v. | to feel a strong desire or wish for something or to do something <i>captives yearning for freedom = captives yearning to be free</i> |
| bloat | n. | too much growth <i>budget/bureaucratic bloat</i> |
| buckle | v. | to fasten (something, such as a belt) with a buckle <i>Buckle your seat belt.</i> |

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| thigh | n. | the part of your leg that is above the knee <i>boneless chicken thighs</i> |
| stud | v. | to decorate or cover (something) with many small items <i>Beads stud the surface of the gown.</i> |
| insolent | adj. | rude or impolite :having or showing a lack of respect for other people <i>an insolent [=impudent, disrespectful] child</i> |
| lure | v. | to cause or persuade (a person or an animal) to go somewhere or to do something by offering some pleasure or gain <i>advertisers trying to lure [=attract] a younger audience to their products</i> |
| flicker | v. | to burn or glow in an unsteady way :to produce an unsteady light <i>A TV was flickering in the background.</i> |
| loom | v. | to appear in a large, strange, or frightening form often in a sudden way <i>A ship loomed (up) out of the fog.</i> |
| seagoing | adj. | made or used for traveling on the sea <i>a seagoing [=oceangoing] ship/craft/vessel</i> |
| warrior | n. | a person who fights in battles and is known for having courage and skill <i>a proud and brave warrior</i> |
| pitiful | adj. | deserving or causing feelings of pity or sympathy <i>a pitiful lost dog</i> |
| gut | adj. | relating to or based on emotions :not based on logic or reason <i>a gut feeling/reaction</i> |
| gloomy | adj. | somewhat dark <i>a gloomy hallway</i> |
| doom | v. | to make (someone or something) certain to fail, suffer, die, etc. <i>A criminal record will doom your chances of becoming a politician.</i> |
| arena | n. | a building for sports and other forms of entertainment that has a large central area surrounded by seats <i>a basketball/hockey arena</i> |
| barren | adj. | having very few plants :not suitable for plants <i>a barren [=desolate] landscape</i> |
| omen | n. | something that is believed to be a sign or warning of something that will happen in the future <i>a bad omen</i> |