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In order to become *great,* members of all cultures should emulate those who are *great*. The Greeks were no exception to this rule. Parents of Greek Children, like any parents wanted their children to become great. Because of this the qualities that follow were ingrained in Greek children from a pre-pubescent age. Among the many attributes which the Greeks tried so hard to mimic, and of those present in *The Odyssey* the most pressing were generosity, pulchritude, finally was their fitness: both physically and mentally.

Throughout *The Odyssey*, generosity is abundant and a social necessity among the Greeks. This is present many times firstly through Alcinous. Alcinous, king of the Phaeacians, when presented with Odysseus not only gives him a ship to go home in, and many riches, but additionally he commands every one give a cauldron, and a tripod. These items were very valuable to the greeks and not only served as monetary value, but also as tools the Odysseus could give to his people. Another example of such abundant generosity can be found in "Aeolus", who was made keeper of the winds. Aeolus, not knowing Odysseus, or if his "tale" had any validity used his powers to send Odysseus home, without questioning whether or not this would anger the gods. A third example of generosity in the Odyssey is Circe, although at first circe is a bit narcissistic, she later opens up and host the men, feeding them for a year. These examples show the abundantly present generosity that is a key aspect of greek culture in the Odyssey.

During *The Odyssey*, there is a great emphasis placed on pulchritude. One of the many examples of this is in book 6, in Odysseus’ first interaction with Nausicaa. Athena, in an attempt to persuade Nausicaa to help Odysseus makes him look taller and stronger than he actually is. The reason she is doing this is so he will be treated better. Another example of this is when the gods make Penelope look more beautiful than she is to lure the suitors in, originally her allure was her power, and that her husband would be king. However now one realizes that it is also beauty and that this is an important factor in the fight for the throne. A third great example of the importance of being handsome is how those who are not are hated. Before Athena makes Odysseus appear old, when she is explaining the plan, Athena says that he will seem *appealing* to not only the suitors but his wife and son. This is a great demonstration of how pulchritude, or one’s lack thereof could make or break someone. These examples. among many others have shown that in the eyes of the ancient greeks pulchritude was of the utmost importance.

Many times during *The Odyssey,* Odysseus, among many other characters show examples of cunning. One of the most well known examples of cunning is when Polyphemus, a bizarre one eyed giant asks Odysseus his name. To this inquiry Odysseus responds that his name is “nobody”, this way when Odysseus attacks him later, the other Giants will think he’s cursed if no one is attacking him. Another example of cunning takes place in the Home of Odysseus. Here Penelope tells the suitors that she will marry one of her when she has finished sewing her “web”, this “web” is not only a web of cloth, but one of deceit. She took 4 years “sewing her web”. An example of the importance of physical strength is how no matter what Odysseus survives, twice his boat crashed, but he survived because of his physical strength.

All these examples demonstrate what the Greeks wanted their children to act like, and ultimately be like. Homer, in *The Odyssey* gives us a window into Greek culture that can not be paralleled anywhere else. The most commonplace, and desirable attributes of the Odyssey which the Greeks attempted to emulate were generosity, pulchritude, finally was their fitness: both physically and mentally.