

Sample Title: The Similarities in Violence Between The Odyssey and Today

Date Written: November 2, 1993

The following is an example of :

- Narrative Writing
- Descriptive Writing
- Explanatory Writing
- Persuasion/Argumentation
- Response to Written Text

I would rank this sample:  1  2  3  4  5

Overall strength(s) of this writing sample: Nice wording. Very good support and examples for my points. Excellent essay for being only my second one.

Overall weakness(es) of this writing sample: Punctuation is not the greatest. Grammar is also on a freshman level. Tenses of verbs are not consistent.

General comments about this writing sample: I can definitely see the improvement between this (my first & really good essay) and my writing as a senior. This essay was the first essay that I felt really good about.

### Intro paragraph

Is being shot with a gun worse than being shot with a bow and arrow?

The Odyssey and today's world are both as violent as one another, because moral values are lost, violence is rewarded, and nobody cares about laws.

### End paragraph

The Odyssey and today's world are both as violent as one another, because moral values are lost, violence is rewarded, and nobody cares about laws. It's hard to tell the differences between violence of the past and present.

First middle paragraph

There are few moral values in The Odyssey and today's world, and that affects violence that people cause. An example is that Odysseus did not return home to his family after the Trojan War. Instead, he was out traveling the world. Odysseus should have been home raising his son. Today there are a lot of single parents, and that's not good. The attitudes towards violence in The Odyssey and today are that nobody cares about life and nobody respects life. Examples of today are the astounding murder rates and the numbers of abortions that happen. In The Odyssey, Odysseus stabbed Polyphemos in the eye, and killed many people.

Possessions are more important <sup>than people</sup> and everybody cares about themselves first and foremost. An example today is that ~~nothing~~ nobody cares about deaths, unless its in the family.

In The Odyssey, an example of this <sup>is</sup> was when Odysseus and his crew ~~were~~ <sup>are</sup> trying to get past Scylla and Charybdis. Athena told Odysseus, "You may save your own life... and all your companions will be lost." Odysseus cared more about himself than his crew. At every meal in The Odyssey, they only drank wine. They probably got drunk a lot and that caused them to be violent. That situation is similar to today, because <sup>some</sup> people are violent when they are drunk.

Paul Elling  
D-28-93  
P-5 Eng

2ND Middle Tara.

~~We can~~

~~to be~~

Violence is rewarded and respected too much

in our society. The storytellers say that Odysseus is one of the most heroic adventurers in Greek mythology. Does that mean you can be the most violent person and still get away with

being called a hero?

He stabbed Polyphemus in eye and was proud of it.

of men and other beasts. It is similar to

He showed a sense of pride when he said "I say, Cyclops! He didn't turn out to be such a milk sop after all..."

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for shooting down other planes. They keep score on their plane and this becomes a statistic.

In many sports, violence is treated well. Football

keeps track of sacks. That is a stat for tackling the quarterback. There is a number of minutes

in the penalty box in hockey. An athlete in

hockey can become a league leader for penalty minutes by fighting.

3RD Middle paragraph

There are too many criminals, <sup>and violent</sup> people who want to fight.

There were too many criminals, <sup>and violent</sup> people today and in The Odyssey, because they are taught wrong and they don't obey the law. The Cyclopians <sup>kill</sup> <sup>eat</sup> murdered humans and ate them. That's cannibalism, because they were eating the same species and did not feel impudence. Today's example of this is the serial killers. They murder people and don't seem to have any guilt about it.

"Might is right" seems to be the law of The Odyssey and its finding its way back to our time. The cyclopians were killers and nobody did anything about it. Odysseus did not give mercy said, "Spare me, Odysseus, I pray!" to Leides, when he asked Odysseus to spare him.

Odysseus cut his head off. An example of "might is right" today is worse. Cops are being treated like criminals and criminals are being treated

like victims. Some people are committing crimes and getting beat up by cops for doing a crime.

Another example is when a robber breaks into somebody's house. ~~The person who is living~~ <sup>owner</sup> in the house wakes up. ~~That person owns~~ <sup>The owner has</sup> a handgun. While the robber is stealing from the house, ~~the person living there sees him~~ <sup>the owner</sup> ~~he sees~~ <sup>the robber</sup> and shoots ~~him~~ <sup>the owner</sup> in the foot. The robber runs away. A couple weeks later ~~the person who~~ <sup>assault</sup> ~~lives in the house~~ has to go to court, because the robber filed an ~~assault~~ charge against him.

Outline Comp. The Similarities

Subject: Violence in The Odyssey and today's world.

Purpose: To Compare the violence in The Odyssey to today's world (the similarities).

Thesis: The past and present are both as violent as one another, because moral values are lost, violence is rewarded, and nobody cares about laws.

Outline:

- I. How the losing of moral values affects the occurrence of violence.
  - A. Attitudes.
  - B. No Care for life.
  - C. No Respect for life.
  - D. Possessions are more important than people.
  - E. No Responsibility (knowing when to stop drinking.)
- II. How violence is treated, respected, and rewarded.
  - A. Heroes of War (past and present)
  - B. Sports (Football, Boxing, and Hockey)
  - C. Video Games (Mortal Kombat)
  - D. Television and Movies, Stories and Tales (past)
- III. Criminals, Teaching, and Obedying the Law.
  - A. Cannibalism and the Cyclopians
  - B. Murdering and the serial killers
  - C. "Might is right" - the law of the land back then. (etc making a comeback.)
  - D. Cops are more and more being thought of as criminals and criminals are the victims.