

LANGUAGE ARTS 10

Name _____ Class _____ Score _____

Week #3 Reading Worksheet pp. 122 - 139 "The Iliad"

Directions: Answer the following items with complete sentences using proper punctuation and grammar. Scoring guidelines: Accuracy 34% Neatness 33% Completeness 33%

1. What crisis in the Greek camp confronts the leaders at the opening of the epic? How does this crisis lead to a conflict between Achilles and Agamemnon?

2. What action does Agamemnon take to appease Apollo? Whom does he take from Achilles?

3. What oath does Achilles swear? Why does he withdraw from the battle?

4. What does Thetis promise to do for her son Achilles?

5. What impression do you form of Agamemnon's character from his own words and action and the reactions of Calchas and Achilles?

6. What ominous or threatening images can you identify in the first fifteen lines of Book 1 of “The Iliad”? What future events do these images foreshadow?

7. In the scene between Achilles and his mother, Thetis, there is a flashback to an earlier time when Thetis helped defend Zeus. What purpose does this flashback serve?

8. What role do the gods play in Book 1? Are they aloof observers, fair intermediaries, or meddling nuisances? Describe the roles played by Apollo, Athena, and Thetis in this book of the Iliad.

9. Do you think Achilles is justified in his wrath against Agamemnon and his subsequent withdrawal from battle? Imagine that Achilles is a modern-day military officer. Would a modern general be justified withdrawing from combat if his personal honor were at stake? If so, under what circumstances?
