

Aim: Do we need heroes?

Do Now:

- What qualities do we associate with a modern-day hero or heroine?
- Should we use the word hero to apply to both male and female heroes? Does the word heroine imply different qualities?



Homer

- Wrote epic poems - the Iliad and the Odyssey
 - epic poems that describe the Trojan War, a conflict between the Greeks and the city of Troy that the epics say was fought almost 1200 years before the Common Era.
- **Iliad** –
 - The story of the Trojan War & Achilles
- **Odyssey** –
 - 10 years after the end of the Trojan War
 - Odysseus, a Greek soldier trying to find his way home to Ithaca



Readings:

Helen of Troy

- Helen of Sparta
- Wife of King Menelaus
- Considered the most beautiful woman in the world



The Great Achilles

- Thetis: Sea Nymph – Achilles mother
- River Styx: River of the underworld
 - forms a border between the underworld and the world of the living.



The Odyssey

- **Setting:** 10 years after the end of the Trojan War
- **Theme:** A Long Journey
- **A Hero In trouble:**
 - Odysseus, a Greek soldier trying to find his way home to Ithaca
 - People of Ithaca have forgotten about him
 - His war-hero status is not important anymore