Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *The Odyssey* Guide

 **“Penelope” (pgs 691-693) and “The Challenge” (pgs 694-696)**

 Directions: Answer each question *while you read*.

1. Who is “the old beggar”?
2. Why does he keep his identity a secret from his wife?
3. In lines 1307-1308 and lines 1310-1311, Penelope says, “’Stranger, my looks, my face, my carriage, were soon lost or faded…If he returned, if he were here to care for me, I might be happily renowned!”

What do you think she means? What does “renowned” mean?

1. In lines 1321-1327, Penelope explains her *ruse* that she used to put off marrying the suitors. What is her trick? Hint: A “shroud” is a covering used to cover dead bodies, and “Lord Laertes” is Odysseus.
2. What did she do every night to keep her ruse going?
3. After years of doing this, Penelope says lines 1339-1341. “Evade” must mean: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Therefore, Penelope is saying,
5. Even after he learns that she still loves him, Odysseus still does not reveal his identity. Why?

**“The Challenge”**

1. Draw a picture in the space below of the “Challenge” Penelope presents to the suitors, described in italics.
2. A simile is a comparison between two things using “like” or “as”. Explain the simile used to describe how Odysseus bends the bow.
3. In lines 1389-1393, Odysseus lets the arrow go. What happens?
4. Why does Telemachus “belt his sword on” at the end of the reading? What do you predict will happen next?