

## RHETORICAL SKILLS

Ms. Ladstein

### PREPARATION FOR SEMESTER II EXAM 2008

Materials to bring to class:

1. #2 pencil for scantron answer sheet (vocabulary)
2. Pen (blue or black ink) for grammar and essay sections
3. Book to turn in on exam day: *Prentice Hall Literature* (\$32.00) Please note: If you do not return your book (or pay the replacement cost for those which have been lost), you will not be allowed to take the exam.

Each of the three parts of the exam should take approximately 1/2 hour to complete.

#### Part I - Cumulative Mastery Test of Vocabulary Workshop (#2 pencil)

The test will cover all 15 units and will be in the same format as your review tests (synonyms, antonyms, and completing the sentence). Prepare for this by reviewing the words in each unit and by doing the cumulative review exercises and the mastery test in your workbook.

#### Part II: Grammar Mastery Test (pen)

The test will cover the grammar we studied 2nd semester, namely, verbs and punctuation. Review the exercises in your SkillsBook, the verb quiz, and the punctuation pretest.

#### Part III: Essay on *The Odyssey* (pen)

For this section, you will be asked to write a five-paragraph essay, either about the qualities of Odysseus as an epic hero or about the values and beliefs of the Greeks as revealed by *The Odyssey*. Prepare for the two essays by making a chart with four columns:

Column 1 - List the episode by title

Column 2 - Briefly describe the events in the episode

Column 3 - Identify the personal qualities Odysseus demonstrates in the episode

Column 4 - Explain the value(s) and/or belief(s) of the Greeks as shown in the episode

For either essay, you will need to select three qualities or beliefs, so decide which ones emerge as the most important.

The essay should follow the same organizational pattern as your character analysis paper (model essay, *Writing Handbook*, pp.38-40):

#### Introductory paragraph

General statement - attention-getting opening on an idea related to the question

Central idea - a statement about the main idea of your essay

Thesis - a statement identifying the three topics to be discussed (in the order of least to most important, or in chronological order)

#### Three body paragraphs with topic sentences related to thesis

first paragraph- first topic

second paragraph- second topic

third paragraph- third topic

#### Concluding paragraph

restate thesis

restate central idea

explain why it matters to us today