

Oral Participation & Discussion Rubric

The Odyssey

Odysseus' Epic Journey by Homer

(Classroom Edition)

Adapted for Young Readers with Illustrations by:

Frances Bianchi & Mara Seronda



This rubric is designed to assess students' understanding of the narrative, characters, events, and vocabulary, as well as their ability to analyze actions, motivations, and cause-and-effect relationships presented in this Classroom Edition of *The Odyssey*.

It may be used for guided reading, independent reading, written comprehension responses, and formative or summative assessment across all chapters of the book. The criteria align with the instructional emphases identified within each chapter and support consistent classroom evaluation.

© 2026 Ollada de Tinta. All rights reserved.

Criterion 1: Participation and Engagement

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Participates actively and consistently in discussions, contributing relevant ideas.
3 – Proficient	Participates regularly with appropriate contributions.
2 – Developing	Participates occasionally or with limited relevance.
1 – Beginning	Rarely participates or does not contribute to discussions.

Criterion 2: Listening and Respect for Others

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Listens attentively, responds respectfully, and builds on others' ideas.
3 – Proficient	Listens and responds appropriately to others.
2 – Developing	Listens inconsistently or responds with limited awareness of others' ideas.
1 – Beginning	Shows limited listening or respect during discussions.

Criterion 3: Use of Text-Based Ideas

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Refers clearly to events, characters, or ideas from the text when speaking.
3 – Proficient	Uses general references to the text to support ideas.
2 – Developing	References to the text are vague or unclear.
1 – Beginning	Does not connect spoken ideas to the text.

Criterion 4: Clarity of Oral Expression

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Expresses ideas clearly and understandably in spoken language appropriate to the classroom context.
3 – Proficient	Expresses ideas clearly with minor difficulties, appropriate to the classroom context.
2 – Developing	Oral expression is sometimes unclear or difficult to follow.
1 – Beginning	Has difficulty expressing ideas orally.

Criterion 5: Task Fulfillment in Oral Activities

Level	Descriptor
4 – Advanced	Fully follows discussion guidelines or oral task instructions.
3 – Proficient	Follows most discussion guidelines or task instructions.
2 – Developing	Partially follows discussion guidelines or task instructions.
1 – Beginning	Does not follow discussion guidelines or task instructions.

Scoring and Use

This rubric may be used to assess oral participation during discussions, guided reading, and collaborative classroom activities.

Teachers may score individual criteria or use the rubric formatively to guide feedback.

This rubric assesses participation, listening, and use of ideas from the text. Oral language accuracy is evaluated in context and according to instructional goals.