

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS BASED ON LINES 1-410 OF *ILIAD*, BOOK ONE

1. IN BOOK ONE, THE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE CAN BE DIVIDED BETWEEN THREE PARTS, 1) MILITARY, 2) RELIGIOUS, AND 3) POLITICAL. WHICH LEADERS WOULD YOU SAY CAN BE CONSIDERED AS THE SUPREME LEADER IN EACH CATEGORY. HOW DO THESE SPHERES OF INFLUENCE OVERLAP AND HOW DO THEY COME INTO CONFLICT?

2. IN BOOK ONE, LINE 376, AGAMEMNON ORDERS HIS HERALDS, TALTHYBIUS AND EURYBATES, TO ACHILLES' CAMP IN ORDER TO SEIZE BRISEIS AND RETURN HER TO AGAMEMNON. HOMER TELLS US THAT THE HERALDS DO THIS "AGAINST THEIR WILL" (LINE 385). WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TELLING US THAT THE HERALDS CARRY OUT AN ORDER ALTHOUGH IT IS AGAINST THEIR WILL?