

Getting at Authors' Style

Excerpts from **The Odyssey**

Sing to me of the man, Muse, the man of twists and turns driven time and again off course, once he had plundered the hallowed heights of Troy.

Many cities of men he saw and learned their minds, many pains he suffered, heartsick on the open sea, fighting to save his life and bring his comrades home. But he could not save them from disaster, hard as he strove- the recklessness of their own ways destroyed them all, the blind fools, they devoured the cattle of the Sun and the Sungod wiped from sight the day of their return. Launch out on his story, Muse, daughter of Zeus, start from where you will – sing for our time too.

So Athena vowed and under her feet she fastened the supple sandals, ever-glowing gold, that wing her over the waves and boundless earth with the rush of gusting winds. She seized the rugged spear tipped with bronze point – weighted, heavy, the massive shaft she wields to break the lines of heroes the mighty Father's daughter storms against. And down she swept from Olympus' craggy peaks and lit on Ithaca, standing tall at Odysseus' gates, the threshold of his court. Gripping her bronze spear, she looked for all the world like a stranger now, like Mentos...

When young Dawn with her rose-red fingers shone once more the true son of Odysseus sprang from bed and dressed, over his shoulder he slung his well-honed sword, fastened rawhide sandals under his smooth feet and stepped from his bedroom, handsome as a god.

How does Homer use?

Give some examples here:

Sensory Images?	
Figurative Language? Similes, Metaphors, Personification	
Vivid Verbs?	
Alliteration?	
Difficult Vocabulary?	
Short sentences? Long sentences?	
Allusions?	
Parallelism?	
Amazing Adjectives?	