Prompts for Paper #4

Write a brief essay (4-5 pages) based on one of the following prompts.

1. In guiding Telemachus, Athena extols Orestes, who killed his mother. In reestablishing the integrity of his household, Odysseus kills all of the suitors. Did the Greeks think that violence was the foundation of society? Answer this question based on two of the following works, The Odyssey, Helen, and Agamemnon.

2. Choose an incident from two of the following works—The Odyssey, Helen, and Agamemnon—in which a character appears to do something wrong. Consider whether the action really was wrong. In each case you choose, is the question of right and wrong—innocence or guilt—an easy judgment?

In working on your paper, pay special attention to the Handbook sections on "Checking Your Arguments" and "Conclusions" (pp. 17-24), and to your section instructor’s discussion of pronoun problems. Turn in your essay at the end of lecture on Thursday, March 1.

At the same time, you need to send an electronic copy to the anti-plagiarism website Turnitin.com. Let us remind you that, if you use other people’s words as if they were your own, you are committing academic dishonesty, which at UCSD is severely punished. It is also very easy to discover.