**Directions:**  Answer the following questions in complete sentences for full credit.

**The Beggar and the Faithful Dog**

1. Why is it ironic that Odysseus should return home to Ithaca in beggar’s rags?
2. What is Argo’s condition when Odysseus sees him? In telling us how Odysseus’ dog is kept, what is Homer also telling us about conditions in Ithaca?
3. What tale does the beggar tell Penelope? How does he describe Odysseus, and why do you think he adds these details?
4. How is Penelope’s interview with the beggar ironic?
5. Who recognizes Odysseus, despite his rags, when he returns to his Kingdom?
6. By what given sign sign did she recognize him?
7. What do we learn about the character of Penelope in her interview with the beggar?
8. Why do you think Odysseus continues to keep his identity hidden from his wife?