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Level 2 – 23rd July 2026

'The Odyssey' breaks records at the box office

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

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Please try Levels 0, 1 and 3. They are (a little) harder.

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THE READING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

The new movie 'The Odyssey' has broken box office records worldwide. The three-hour-long film made over \$290,000 from just one cinema in London. The previous record was held by 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' in 2017. The movie 'Oppenheimer' is in third place. 'The Odyssey' is also doing well in the USA. It is the biggest opening of the year for a non-animated film. The world's largest theatre operator reported high ticket sales. It had screenings at 2 am and 3 am in some cities to meet demand. Almost all seats were sold out.

'The Odyssey' is an action fantasy film. It was written and directed by Christopher Nolan. It is based on a 2,700-year-old poem written by the Greek poet Homer. The story is about a king called Odysseus. He goes on a ten-year journey to get home after fighting in the Trojan War. On his travels, he meets many mythical creatures. The movie has many stars including rapper Travis Scott. Nolan has also received a lot of praise. A movie expert said: "Nolan is the only filmmaker working today who could take an ancient story like this ... and make it a pop culture event."

Sources: <https://variety.com/2026/film/box-office/the-odyssey-uk-ireland-box-office-1236816591/>
<https://www.nytimes.com/2026/07/19/business/media/the-odyssey-box-office-christopher-nolan.html>
<https://www.theguardian.com/film/2026/jul/20/the-odyssey-box-office>

PHRASE MATCHING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

PARAGRAPH ONE:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. The three-hour-long film made | a. sales |
| 2. The previous | b. demand |
| 3. in third | c. well |
| 4. 'The Odyssey' is also doing | d. were sold out |
| 5. a non-animated | e. record |
| 6. high ticket | f. film |
| 7. meet | g. over \$290,000 |
| 8. Almost all seats | h. place |

PARAGRAPH TWO:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. 'The Odyssey' is an action | a. a lot of praise |
| 2. written and directed | b. poem |
| 3. It is based on a 2,700-year-old | c. creatures |
| 4. He goes on a ten-year | d. working today |
| 5. he meets many mythical | e. fantasy film |
| 6. Nolan has also received | f. journey |
| 7. movie | g. by Christopher Nolan |
| 8. Nolan is the only filmmaker | h. expert |

LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

The new movie 'The Odyssey' has broken box (1) _____. The three-hour-long film made over \$290,000 from (2) _____ in London. The previous record was held by 'Star Wars: The Last Jedi' in 2017. The movie 'Oppenheimer' is (3) _____. 'The Odyssey' is also doing well in the USA. It is the biggest opening of the year for a (4) _____. The world's largest theatre operator reported (5) _____. It had screenings at 2 am and 3 am in some cities to meet demand. Almost all seats (6) _____.

'The Odyssey' is (7) _____ film. It was written and directed by Christopher Nolan. It (8) _____ a 2,700-year-old poem written by the Greek poet Homer. The story is about a king called Odysseus. He goes on a (9) _____ to get home after fighting in the Trojan War. On his travels, (10) _____ mythical creatures. The movie has many stars including rapper Travis Scott. Nolan has also received a (11) _____. A movie expert said: "Nolan is the only filmmaker working today who could take an ancient story like this ... and make it a (12) _____."

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

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THE ODYSSEY SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

Write five GOOD questions about The Odyssey in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

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WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

- a) _____
- b) _____
- c) _____
- d) _____
- e) _____
- f) _____

WRITING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2607/260723-the-odyssey-2.html>

Write about **The Odyssey** for 10 minutes. Read and talk about your partner's paper.

[illegible]