

# Black Ships Before Troy

---

## Characters for Greece

**Achilles:** (uh-kil'-eez) Greek hero in the Trojan War; Achilles was the most handsome of the heroes assembled against Troy

**Agamemnon:** (ag-uh-mem'-nahn) "King of Kings" over all the kings of Greece; had a black beard

**Ajax:** ruler of Salamis; Ajax was one of the suitors of Helen and so was one of the members of the Greek force against Troy in the Trojan War. He was almost as skilled a fighter as Achilles.

**Briseis:** (Brī-sē-is) or (Brī-say'-is) a Trojan woman given to Achilles awarded to Achilles during the war

**Calchas:** (kal'-kuhs) chief among the seers or soothsayers (fortune-tellers) who predicted the future; had a gift for interpreting the flight of birds.

**Chryseis:** (Krī-'sē-əs) or (Krī-say-is) a Trojan woman & daughter of a priest of Apollo, the sun god; was given to Agamemnon as plunder from the war

**Diomedes:** (*Dio-mē-dēs*) "God-like cunning" or "advised by Zeus" a hero in the Trojan War; King of Argos; brother of Agamemnon; regarded alongside Ajax as one of the best warriors of all the Achaeans; *close companion to Odysseus*; He enters the war with a fleet of 80 ships, third only to Agamemnon's

**Helen:** wife of King Menelaus; the most beautiful of all women

**King Menelaus:** (men-uh-lay'-uhs) King of Sparta and central figure in war against Troy; his wife Helen deserted him for Paris (from Troy)

**Myrmidons:** ('mər-mə-,däns) brave and skilled warriors commanded by Achilles

**Nestor:** (nes'-tur) the "old wise man" and King of Pylos

**Odysseus:** (oh-dis'-ee-uhs) leader of the Greeks; legendary King of Ithaca

**Patroclus:** (pə-'trah-klus) King of Opus, and was *Achilles' beloved comrade*

**Peleus:** ('pē-lē-əs) Father of Achilles

**Phoenix:**

**Thetis:** (thee-tis) Mother of Achilles

# Black Ships Before Troy

---

## Characters for Troy

**Aeneas:** (ih-nee-uhs) or (ih-nay' uhs) a hero of Troy

**Andromache:** (an-drom' -ah-kee) wife of Hector

**Hector:** the war leader for Troy; first-born son of King Priam

**Helenus:** Son of King Priam and Queen Hecuba of Troy

**Oenone:** (ē-'nō-nē) the first wife of Paris, whom he abandoned for Helen

**Paris:** King Priam's son

**Priam:** (pri'-am) King of Troy

**Queen Hecuba** (hek'yoo-buh) Queen to Priam & Paris' mother

**Sarpedon:** (sahr-peed'-n) fought for Troy; Zeus's son by a mortal mother; Lord of Lycia

## Gods & Goddesses

**Aphrodite:** (af-roh-dy'tee) Goddess of love, beauty, and desire (was for Troy)

**Apollo:** (uh-pol-oh) son god; god of art, music, and healing

**Athene:** (a-thee'-na) the goddess of wisdom, civilization, warfare, strength, strategy, female arts, crafts, justice and skill (was for Greece)

**Hera:** Zeus' wife; the Queen of the Gods

**Zeus:** (zoos) King of the Gods

## Principal Places

**Aegean Sea:** large body of water on the eastern side of Greece

**Greece**

**Mount Olympus:** the dwelling of the Gods

**Troy**

**Mycenae,** (my-see-nee) **Pylos,** (pī -los) **Salamis, Crete, and Ithaca:** ancient cities in Greece