Goals: To discuss civil rights and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Assignment: Writing to explore or reflect
Prompt: After reading a short excerpt in “The Star of Training” about Odysseus, write a reflection that shows the reader your thinking about his character. Consider what Chappell is saying about Odysseus and his use of language to sway people. We know that *The Odyssey* is an epic with Odysseus as the epic hero; however, should the fact that he lies change his heroic status? Could his lying be considered a character flaw?
Homework: Read and annotate the first few pages of chapter two.
Instructions: TBD by the teacher

Quote Bank for Discussion:

1. Using Odysseus in contrast with Achilles throughout this section, Chappell says, “Our two most dangerous human powers are the muscle of language and the muscle of imagination” (106). What is his supporting evidence? He references these men throughout much of the chapter, so we should continue to analyze what we know of this history and how it is relevant to *Soldiers of Peace*.

2. Chappell then follows with more Greek mythology, specifically Odysseus and Athena. “Odysseus is a useful metaphor … while Athena show[s] how war is connected to deception” (213). Using the text to identify these metaphors, discuss how Chappell uses all of these metaphors.

3. The adage, “The pen is mightier than the sword” is “not an exaggeration” (113). Chappell says, “The pen can also promote hatred, deception, and dehumanization. The pen that incites hatred, advocates racism and sexism, rationalizes slavery and other unjust economic policies, reduces people’s sense of dignity and worth, promotes greed and selfishness, encourages us to be apathetic rather than proactive in solving our global problems, defends environmental devastation, and suppresses the truth of our shared humanity is mightier in its ability to cause harm than the sword . . . The original saying, which is attributed to several people who lived over two thousand years ago, states, ‘The word is mightier than the sword.’ History has proven them to be correct, not only in terms of the capacity for words to do good, but also harm” (113). Note: I believe this is one of the strongest points Chappell makes in this chapter. How can we protect ourselves from the dangers of language in ways that do not involve censorship?

4. “Using language to serve truth, sincerity, peace, and justice is what I call authentic communication. This use of language is essential in the struggle against ignorance, deception, and injustice. Without authentic communication, we cannot effectively confront the root causes of our national and global problems” (115). Chappell tells us that we must look for the root causes for us to even attempt to achieve real peace. This might be a good time to begin the dialogue of what good communication is.