

**Chapter 2 - Assignment 7:
“The Contest of Homer and Hesiod” by Alcidamas of Elaea**

In order to help you answer these questions, see pages 55—57 in Chapter 2.

1. Homer discussed the four cardinal virtues. What are the four cardinal virtues?
(Note: Since one of the cardinal virtues goes by two names, give both names for it.)

(i) _____ or _____

(ii) _____

(iii) _____

(iv) _____

2. Before the contest was won by Hesiod, why did it seem as if Homer would win?

3. Homer had opinions about what the best (τὸ ἄριστον) is.

(i) According to Homer, what is best for *humans*?

(ii) According to Homer, what is *second* best for humans?

(iii) According to Homer, what is best *to ask for from the gods*?

(iv) According to Homer, what is best for the *mind*? (Hint: It's a cardinal virtue.)

(v) According to Homer, what is best for the *body*? Hint: It's a cardinal virtue.)

7. In the epic poetry contest between Homer and Hesiod, Hesiod won, and Homer lost. Why?

8. In the epic poetry contest between Homer and Hesiod, they each won a prize.

(i) What prize did *Hesiod* win?

(ii) What prize did *Homer* win?

9. Homer and Hesiod each did something with their prize.

(i) What did Hesiod do with his prize?

(ii) What did Homer do with his prize?

10. In the dialogue "The Contest of Homer and Hesiod" by Alcidamas of Eleaea, which one of the four cardinal virtues did Homer *not* discuss?