§19. The Menis

The wrath of Achilles, scion of Peleus, sing, O Goddess,
ruinous wrath, that afflicted with numberless woes the Achaeans,
– Iliad 1:1-2

We have suggested that the performance module for the Wrath and its precursor was 50 minutes, plus or minus 10. We have noted interpolations which, if removed, bring some long books within that range. Here is the picture so far reached. We give the length of each Iliad book, save those we see as later additions (Id 10, 23, and 24), with interpolations so far suggested, and books which we have proposed to divide into two modules (Id 11, 13, and 16).[1]

Iliad 1 (611 > 554)	Iliad 13a > 423
431-487 (58) Return Chryseis	
Iliad 2 (877 > 000)	Iliad 13b > 414
50-441 (392) F Telemachus	
Iliad 3 (461)	Iliad 14. 522
Iliad 4 (544 - 38 >)	Iliad 15 (746)
327-364 (38) F Telemachus	00
Iliad 5 (909 - 322 > 587)	Iliad 16a : 419
311-431 (121) Wound Aphrodite	
709-909 (201) Wound Ares	
Iliad 6 (529)	Iliad 16b > 448
Iliad 7 (482	Iliad 17. 760
	00
Iliad 8 (565)	Iliad 18. 617 - 141 > 476
	39-49 (11) Nereids
	336-337 (2) Twelve Trojans
	461-608 (128) Shield
Iliad 9 (713 - 211 > 502)	Iliad 19
432-622 etc (211) Phoinix	
Iliad 11a > 425	Iliad 20
Iliad 11b > 471	Iliad 21. 611 - 16 > 595
	17-33 (16) Twelve Trojans
Iliad 12	Iliad 22
Text	

[1]This is essentially a repeat, for the convenience of readers who may look for it here, of the conclusions reached in §14.

So far the present investigation. It may be of interest, at this point, to see what effect these changes have on the stylistic similarity of the Iliad books. We have space only for one comparison, Iliad 1-6 as they stand in the text, and as modified by our proposals. Here are the results for the present text:[2]

Iliad	1	2	3	4	5	6
	4504	6018	3246	3814	6437	3746
1	~	0·84	0·99	0·64	0·69	0·88
2	0·84	~	0·63	0·55	0·86	0·85
3	0·99	0·63	~	0·65	0·89	0·61
4	0·64	0·55	0·65	~	0·70	0·88
5	0·69	0·86	0·89	0·70	~	0·95
6	0·88	0·85	0·61	0·88	0·95	~

Two consecutive chapters show High values: Id 1/2 at D = 0·84, and Id 5/6 at D = 0·95, almost prohibitive. The rest are in the Normal range, as might be expected from what ought to be chapters in the same work. Id 1, as the keynote book of the Menis, shows an almost prohibitive value (D = 0·99) with Id 3, the first of what we take as recycled Trojan War books. Those books themselves (3/4), again unsurprisingly, are in the Normal range (D = 0·65). Our suggestion that 3 and 4 may have been incorporated by Homer from the Trojan repertoire without drastic rewriting is, at least, not refuted by these stylistic results.

And here are the values for Id 1-6 incorporating changes so far suggested:

Iliad	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	~	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
2	0·00	~	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
3	0·00	0·00	~	0·00	0·00	0·00
4	0·00	0·00	0·00	~	0·00	0·00
5	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	~	0·00
6	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	~

Comment

[2]From Brooks **Greek** 26-27, where the whole Iliad table is available.