

Antigone/Aristotle Study Guide

Cast of Characters:

Antigone- Buried Polynices

Ismene-Sister to Antigone

Creon-New King of Thebes, brother to Jocasta and uncle to Antigone.

Eurydice-Wife of Creon

Sentry-Informed Creon that Antigone buried Polynices

Chorus-Old men of Thebes

Teiresias-The blind prophet

Haemon-Son of Creon and fiancée of Antigone.

Messenger-Informed the chorus of Haemon and Eurydice's death.

Polynices-Attacked Thebes to overthrow his brother, the king.

Eteocles-Eldest son of Oedipus, former ruler of Thebes, killed by his brother.

Sophocles-Playwright of Antigone

Quiz Questions:

What was the War of Thebes over? (Who won? Who died?)

What does Creon think makes a great King?

Why does Antigone want to bury Polynices? Why does Creon NOT want to bury Polynices?

How did Antigone react when Ismene 'confessed' to being an accomplice and why did she feel this way?

Where did Creon send Antigone to go to her death and how did he plan to kill her?

How does Haemon try to convince Creon that killing Antigone was a bad idea? What example does Haemon give of one being too prideful or strict?

What does Tiresias tell Creon he saw and what does he warn him he must do?

Why did Creon distrust Tiresias' advice at first?

Which 3 characters die at the end of Antigone and HOW?

What is "hubris" and how is it the theme of the play Antigone

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Greek Tragedy Structure:

Prologue-A monologue or dialogue preceding the entry of the chorus, which presents the tragedy's topic

Parados-Entrance of the Chorus

Episodian-Scene in which one or two actors interact with the chorus

Stasimon-A choral ode in which the chorus may comment on or react to the preceding episode.

Exodus-The exit song of the chorus after the last episode.

Elements of Drama:

Aristotle wrote what famous work over Tragedy and Comedy?

The Poetics

What is Catharsis?

A cleansing of the soul through pity and fear

What are the 6 elements of Drama?

Thought/Theme

Action/Plot

Character

Language

Music

Spectacle