

English 10

Siuslaw High School

Note to Students: In this packet, you will find two weeks worth of activities to complete during this time.

Mr. Wartnik's SOPHOMORE ENGLISH PACKET

I hope you are well—healthy, at peace, well provided for. Our class was at an optimal time for a transition, and I am thankful for that. I realize some of you have fallen behind. If you have any missing work (acronyms, notes, or TRIAC explanations) for any of the short stories or King Arthur readings, feel free to complete them and turn them in. You can either create google docs (share them with me at neil.wartnik@siuslaw.k12.or.us), word documents (attach them to an email and send them to nwartnik@siuslaw.k12.or.us), or handwrite them and submit them via the bus delivery system or hand delivery (the school is open Monday through Friday this week and the week after Spring Vacation).

Assignment Overview:

Our new topic of study will be the Greek Mythological play *Antigone* written by one of the greatest ancient Greek playwrights, Sophocles. Sophocles is perhaps the most decorated Greek playwright of all time. Each year Athens would have a festival where playwrights would perform their plays and have them judged to see who wrote the best play of the year. The winner would receive the laurels of victory. Plays were performed as part of the Greeks' worship of the gods. Sophocles won this annual contest many, many times.

The play *Antigone* (more than 2500 years old) was part of a series of plays based on the famous mythological human Oedipus Rex. Oedipus was a tragic character, son of King Laius of Thebes and Queen Jocasta. Oedipus' life started out rough when an oracle prophesied he would end up killing his father and destroying his father's kingdom. Laius tried to have Oedipus killed to sidestep this bullet, but the servant assigned the task could not bring himself to do it. Instead he pierced the baby's feet with his knife and left him to die (This is how Oedipus got his name; Oedipus means "swollen foot". But the baby survived. He was found and brought to King Polybus of Corinth who raised Oedipus as his son. Polybus never told Oedipus he was not his biological son. Consequently, when Oedipus came of age and sought an oracle to learn of his life's destiny, he was appalled to discover he would ultimately kill his father and destroy his kingdom. He did not realize the oracle related to a different man/kingdom. So Oedipus left Corinth to insure he would do Polybus no harm.

Ironically, Oedipus ends up killing Laius in a road-rage conflict and destroying Laius' kingdom. Strangely it was his heroism that led his undoing. He was responsible for killing the Sphinx (part lion, part lovely woman) who had been killing wayfarers for quite some time. If you are curious about how he accomplished this, I encourage you to research it. As a reward he was paraded into Thebes and crowned king. He was also given the hand of Queen Jocasta (who strangely had been abandoned by her husband, King Laius??). Together, Oedipus and the queen had four children, twin sons—Eteocles and Polyneices—and daughters Ismene and Antigone. Not until a plague struck the kingdom and he inquired of an oracle did Oedipus learn he had killed his dad, married his mom, and had children out of incest. The news led Jocasta to commit suicide and Oedipus to gouge out his eyes. He spent his final days in exile being nursed by Antigone. Rule was passed on to his twin sons, but that rule was marred by conflict, perhaps because they were cursed by Oedipus. In war the brothers slay one another, "each mirroring the others' death".

The play begins with Antigone going to her sister Ismene to seek her aid in burying Polyneices body. The new king, the girls' uncle, Creon, has forbidden the burial of Polyneices—whom he considers a traitor to the kingdom. He wants it left for scavenging birds and dogs to consume. The basis of conflict in the play is Antigone's unwavering conviction that Polyneices' body must be buried. She sees it as a matter of family honor. All the tragic events of the play spring from Antigone's relentless disregard for Creon's rule to leave Polyneices unburied.

Assignment: Read the Play Antigone, Take Notes, Create an Acronym:

RESOURCES:

*The play may be found in your Red Textbook. The overview begins on page 863. The school is open if you need to pick up your book.

*If you have the internet, you may download a pdf file of the play:

<https://www.fusd1.org/cms/lib03/AZ01001113/Centricity/Domain/1385/Antigone%20Full%20Text.pdf>

*You may listen to the play as well!

https://ia800300.us.archive.org/32/items/antigone_1009_librivox/antigone_1_sophocles_64kb.mp3

ASSIGNMENTS:

*May be submitted online: neil.wartnik@siuslaw.k12.or.us (Google doc) or nwartnik@siuslaw.k12.or.us for an email/attachment.

*May be hand delivered: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. If I am not in the school, assignments may be placed in my staff mail box.

*May be returned via the bus system set up by the school.

Week 1:

1. Read the play: The Prologue, The Parados, Scene 1, Ode I, Scene 2, and Ode II
 2. Notes: Perform a FOCUS note analysis of these Essential Questions (Have a separate page or section for each question):
 - a. What makes Antigone stand apart? Compare how she is described & what she says and does to how other characters are described & what they say and do.
 - b. How are other characters affected by Antigone and why?
 - c. What do the Odes mean? They are like riddles. If you can understand them, you will have an understanding of what Sophocles is trying to say to his audience through this play.
 3. Create an Acronym: Be sure each word sheds insight on the character of ISMENE. Explain each word.
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Week 2:

1. Read the play: Scene 3, Ode III, Scene 4, Ode IV & Scene 5
2. Notes: Continue the FOCUS note analysis of these Essential Questions (using a separate page or section for each question):
 - a. What makes Antigone stand apart? Compare how she is described & what she says and does to how other characters are described & what they say and do.
 - b. How are other characters affected by Antigone and why?
 - c. What do the Odes mean? They are like riddles. If you can understand them, you will have an understanding of what Sophocles is trying to say to his audience through this play.
3. Create an Acronym: Be sure each word sheds insight on the character of ANTIGONE. Explain each word.

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