

## Oedipus Rex Research Assignment

**Task:** Choose one of the topics below. Research thoroughly and write a two page (500 word) report on your topic. Because this is a short writing assignment, you should focus on fewer elements and explain in depth instead of trying to cover everything.

Be prepared to do a brief presentation to the class. During your presentation you should have a visual representation for your topic. Examples: Should you choose the Greek Goddess, Artemis, you might choose to bring in something related to hunting. Should you choose music and dance and masks in Greek Theatre, you might choose to create and bring in masks.

*Your presentation to the class should not only reveal your research, but where applicable, include connections to the play and provide support from the play to illustrate your knowledge of concepts.*

Report must be typed with Annotated Works Cited.

**Date Assigned: February 2, 2017**

**Report Due: February 10, 2017**

**Presentation Date: February 13-17, 2017 (Sign-up)**

### **Topics:**

1. Greek God or Goddess (you should also include information about their Roman counterpart).
2. Mythical creatures and monsters from Greek Mythology
3. The Design of Greek Theatre (including illustration and definition of: theatron, orchestra, skene, thymele, parados, proscenium, eccyclema, etc.)
4. The Festival of Dionysus - who, what, where, when, why, how?
5. Use of Music and Dance and Masks in Greek Theatre
6. Life of Sophocles - who, when, where, famous for, other works and connection to the present play
7. Thespis, Aeschylus and Euripides
8. Main elements of Tragedy as defined by Aristotle - who was Aristotle? His definitions of: mimesis, catharsis, hamartia, peripetia, anagnorisis and the main elements of Greek Tragedy
9. Other Ancient Myths and Heroic Legends surrounding the Royal House of Thebes-what are they? Also why were myths and legends used as the basis for tragedies?
10. Freud's Oedipus Complex-who was Freud, what does this term mean; does it relate to the play: would Sophocles agree?
11. Greek Religion: origin, gods, hubris, moira (fate) and Greek Culture and Values: Humanism, Freedom, Rationalism, Idealism
12. Approved Topic of Choice – You may choose to get a topic approved through Mrs. Sweeney.

