**Analytic Project: Talk Show of *Oedipus the King***

**Group Members**

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| Group Member | Character(s) |
| Giulia | Oedipus Rex |
| Aimee | Interviewer |
| Ji Won | Tiresias/Queen Jocasta |
| Juliana | Creon/Shepherd |

**Analysis of Events**

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| Event(s) | Analysis |
| The Revealing of the (full) Prophecy | * Sets plot into motion * States that it is Oedipus, causing wide dissent * Starts the path of investigation, exposing of the truth * Causes “reassuring” talk * Makes relationship between Creon and Oedipus strained |
| Wife and Husband Talk – Jocasta “reassuring” Oedipus | * Caused by the prophecy * Mentions circumstances of former husband’s death * Oedipus realizes the eerie similarities between the murder he committed and the death of King Laius * Starts Oedipus’ doubt route * Story gains darkness * Oedipus’ reaction to the reassuring talk makes Jocasta worried and suspicious, causing the next event (below) * Ironic |
| Jocasta’s failed attempt to stop her husband from investigating | * Begins to suspect the truth, nonetheless does not want to know * “Sweep-under-the-rug” type person * Realizes what is at stake, if the truth was exposed * Sophocles’ commentary on human behavior in the face of an ugly truth |
| Shepherd revealing the truth | * Exposing of the horrible truth * Climax * Caused by Oedipus’ urging * Results in  1. Jocasta killing herself 2. Oedipus stabbing his eyes out 3. Begging for exile 4. Creon becoming king |

**Analysis of Characters**

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| Character | Analysis |
| Oedipus | * Sincerely Good Person * Curiosity overpowers caution |
| Jocasta | * Tries to defy destiny, believes that her actions are more powerful * When she begins to suspect about the truth, she pushes it away and denies it. * “Sweep-under-rug” type |
| Creon | * Extremely interested in power * Believes that Thebes “is my city too” * Gets mad at Oedipus when he accuses him to have turned up against him |
| Tiresias | * Gifted/cursed by being able to see the truth even though he is blind * Laments his pain-causing knowledge |
| Shepherd | * Strong morals override royal command |

**Literary Devices**

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| Literary Device Identified | Reference in Talk Show |
| Motif/Theme 🡪 Destiny vs. Freewill  🡪 Wisdom comes with a heavy price | * Jocasta brags about beating fate * Catharsis moment 🡪 destiny is unavoidable, invincible * Chain marks on Oedipus’ ankle (look at analogy) * Oedipus’ monologue in Scene 9 |
| Irony | * “I would know my own *son.”* – Jocasta * “Do you feel reassured, now?” – Jocasta (trying to convince Oedipus that the prophecy is false, simply causing him to worry further. |
| Analogy/Metaphor | * Chain Marks  1. “You were a prisoner to the prophecy all along” 2. No one is capable of escaping destiny – with or without your knowledge, you are chained to your fate. |
| Epilogue | * Scene 9 🡪 Wraps up Oedipus’ new lifestyle/concludes and follow through on the prophecy |
| Metaphor | * Short dialogue in scene 8  1. Sophocle’s commentary on human behaviour 2. How different people react to a horrible truth/the possibility of a horrible truth 3. Avoid it and suppress it/hear it, no matter how horrible it is. |
| Foreshadowing | * “I guess it’s just a weird coincidence.” Oedipus states this nervously after hearing about the way Laius’ dies. Hints the future, making audience question why he would say such a thing. |