**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
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| 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
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| 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
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| 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
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**Analysis of Characters**

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| Character  | Analysis  |
| Oedipus | * Sincerely Good Person
* Curiosity overpowers caution
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| 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
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| 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
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| Tiresias | * Gifted/cursed by being able to see the truth even though he is blind
* Laments his pain-causing knowledge
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| Shepherd | * Strong morals override royal command
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**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
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| 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.
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| Epilogue | * Scene 9 🡪 Wraps up Oedipus’ new lifestyle/concludes and follow through on the prophecy
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| 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.
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| 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.
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