

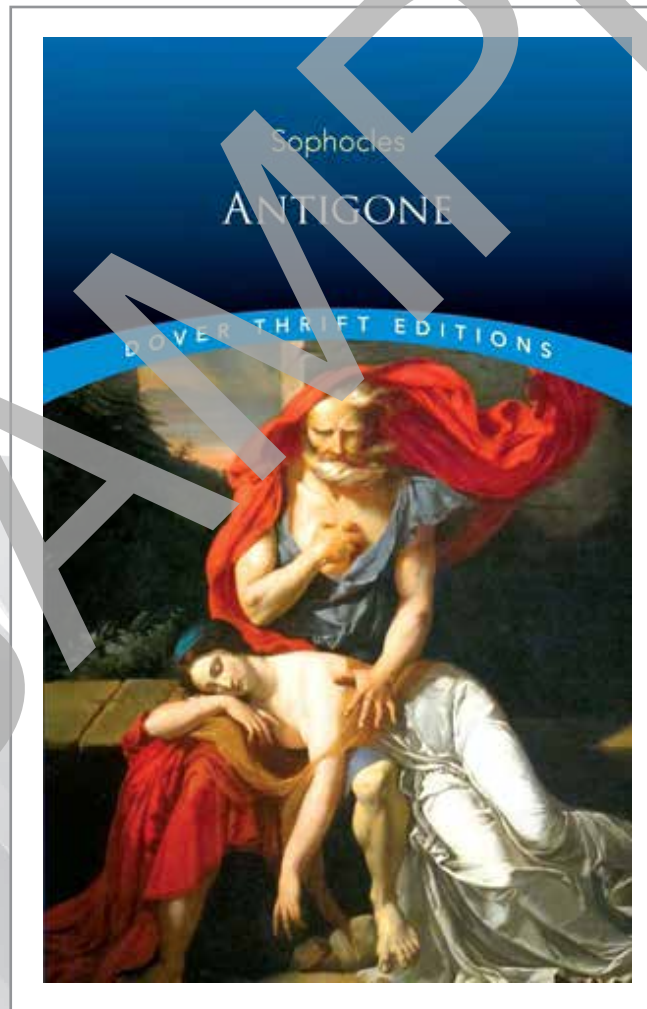


STUDENT PACKET

GRADES 9-12

Antigone

Sophocles



READ, WRITE, THINK, DISCUSS AND CONNECT

Antigone

Sophocles

STUDENT PACKET

NOTE:

The trade book edition of the novel used to prepare this guide is found in the Novel Units catalog and on the Novel Units website. Using other editions may have varied page references.

Please note: We have assigned Interest Levels based on our knowledge of the themes and ideas of the books included in the Novel Units sets, however, please assess the appropriateness of this novel or trade book for the age level and maturity of your students prior to reading with them. You know your students best!

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Name _____

Antigone
Activity #1: Anticipation Guide
Use Before Reading

Directions: With a partner, rate and discuss the following statements on a scale of 1–6. Keep these ratings in mind as you read *Antigone* and consider whether Sophocles—and various characters in his play—feel the same way you do.

1 — 2 — 3 — 4 — 5 — 6
agree strongly *disagree strongly*

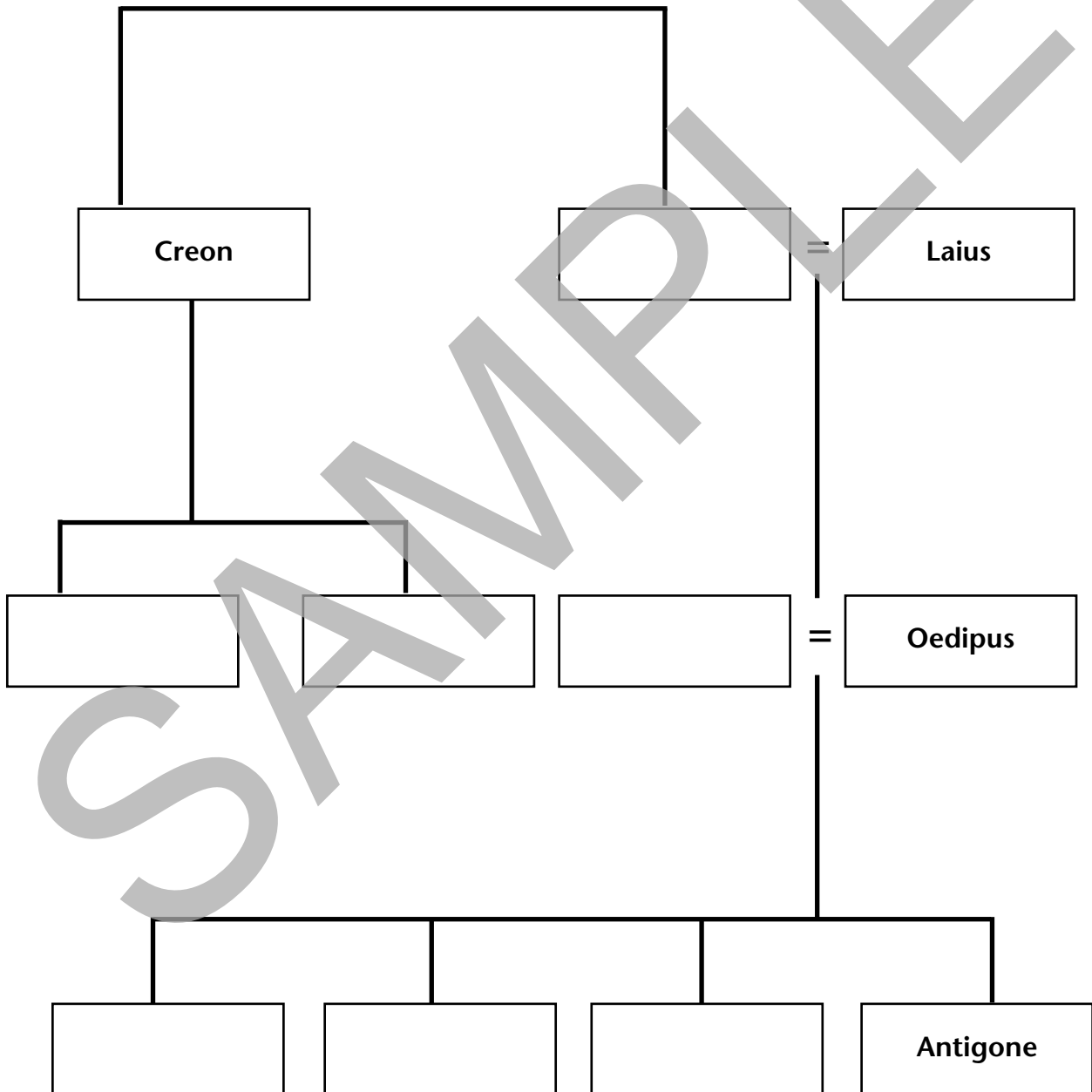
Rating

- _____ 1. Nothing is worth dying for.
- _____ 2. You should obey the rules; they were made for a reason.
- _____ 3. Do the honorable thing.
- _____ 4. Life is hard.
- _____ 5. In the end, most people get what they deserve.
- _____ 6. What's past is past; get on with the present.
- _____ 7. Children end up paying for their parents' mistakes.
- _____ 8. Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.
- _____ 9. It's never too late to learn from your mistakes.
- _____ 10. You should do what is best for the "greater good"—not just for you and your family.
- _____ 11. A wife should support her husband's decisions, regardless of whether she agrees.
- _____ 12. Women should obey the men in power.

Name _____

Antigone
Activity #2: Family Tree
Use During Reading

Directions: A family tree showing the relationships between parents and children in *Oedipus the King* and *Antigone* has been started for you, below. Fill in the blanks as you read the play (= indicates marriage). You may want to use the extra space around the diagram to make notes about the characters and their actions.



Name _____

Antigone

Activity #7: Critical/Creative Thinking
Use After Reading

Directions: You are Haemon. You decide to write to a newspaper columnist about your fiancée, Antigone.

Step 1: Finish the letter begun for you, below:

Dear Gabby:

I am in love with a wonderful woman. The problem is that she and my father have decided to lock horns. It all started when _____
_____. Some people
say that Antigone has her faults—that she _____
_____—but I love her because
_____. Some people also
criticize my father for the way he _____
_____, but I love him, too. This situation is really tearing
me apart. What can I do? **Signed,**

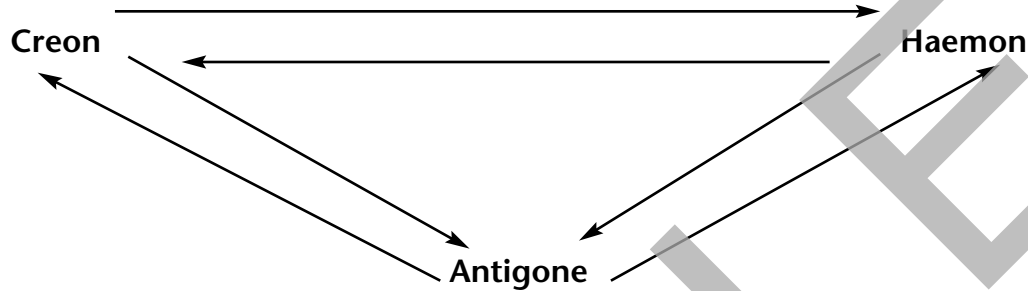
Step 2: In small group, brainstorm possible advice Gabby might give to Haemon. Weigh the pros and cons of each suggestion. (A chart for organizing your ideas is shown below.) Then write a letter of advice back to Haemon, using details from the completed chart.

Choice #1: _____		What should Haemon do about the conflict between his father and his fiancée?	Choice #2: _____	
_____			_____	
PROS	CONS	PROS	CONS	

Name _____

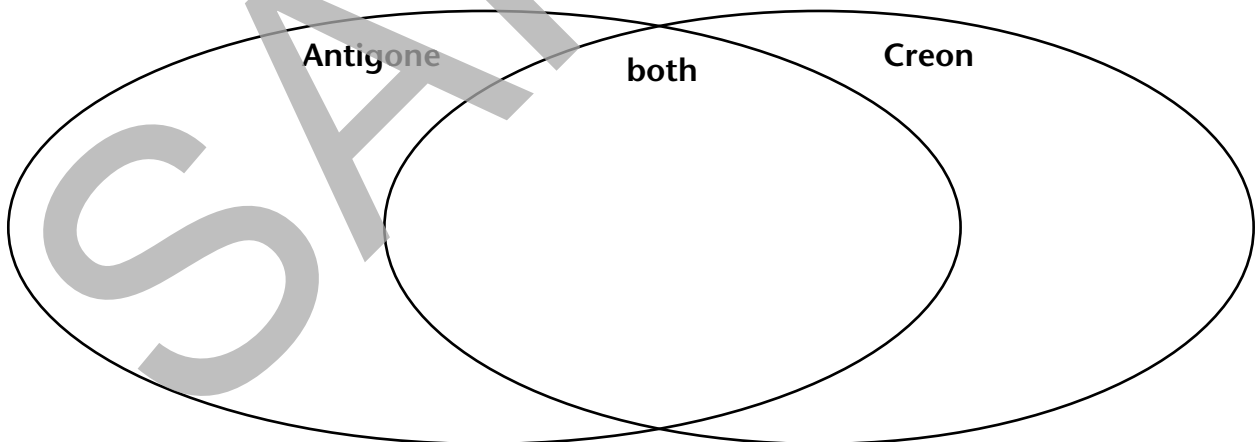
Antigone
Activity #10: Character Relationships
Use After Reading

Directions: (A) In small group talk about the relationships between the characters below. Label each arrow with a brief description of the relationship.



(B) Write an essay analyzing one of the relationships you have discussed. How do the two get along? What is the history of their relationship? What contributes to tensions between these two? jealousy? revenge? pride? different principles? Does the nature of the relationship change during the course of the play?

(C) Some critics have pointed out similarities between Creon and Antigone. Compare and contrast these two in class discussion. How are they similar and how are they different? in temperament? in their relations with peers? in their motivations? in their sense of religious duty? in their attitudes toward law and conscience? in their attitude toward Polynices? Fill in the Venn diagram, below.



(D) Write an essay beginning with the following topic sentence: "Despite the central conflict between Antigone and Creon, they are similar in many ways..."