Drama First Year

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المحاضرة الاولى

Hello everyone:

First of all, let me give you the definition of the drama.

The word drama comes from Greek language and it means deed or action, so drama is about actions or moves of action that take place on the stage. Drama is not the presentation of interesting characters or matter of preaching interesting ideas , drama is the presentation of human being engaged in actions on stage.

In fact , drama is not written to be read . It is written to be performed on the stage . It is written to be performed by a group of actors. It is important when you read the play to remember that it is written to be acted , and you must imagine the actors and the actress while they are performing the ideas written in the play.

When we say theatre we mean actually watch . The word theatre also comes from the Greek language and it means to watch . When you are sitting in the theatre , you become an audience because you see things . The word audience also comes from Geek language and it means to hear.

Conventions of drama

1- Characters : a list of characters are presented at first page of the play

2- Acts : a play is divided into acts . An act is a main division of a play.

3-Scenes : Acts are divided into several scenes . A scene is a major division of act.

4- Stage directions : when you read any play you will find a lot of stage directions . They are provided by the playwright for us . They help us because they provide you

with background information about characters , how they look like . their physical appearance , how they are dressed

In the stage directions the playwright would tell you about whether or not a certain character is happy or sad ; they tell us about the furniture that have on the stage and the sound .

The sage directions are important because they help you get acquainted with the playwright's vision so you can see the action from the view point of the playwright.

Types of Drama

There are four types of drama .

Tragedy , comedy , melodrama , and tragic-comedy

-Tragedy is a dramatic work dealing with a serious theme and it usually ends with a disaster and sad ending such as Hamlet or Antony and Cleopatra .

- Comedy is the opposite . It is the dramatic work that is light and humorous and it has a happy ending , such as the Merchant of Venice .

-Melodrama is a dramatic work that exaggerate emotions and emphasizes plot over characterization and action.

- Tragic-comedy is a mixture of both tragedy and comedy.

When you read the play , it is important to pay attention to the sound effects if it is provided by playwright . Silences are important and symbolic . Gestures are important in drama .Gestures mean the language of body .It is very important to be aware of the body language of certain characters .Also when we read the play , we must have ideas about what the actress and the actors wear. Costumes are important .

Also we must know about the types of furniture . The local is important : it Dialogue is a form of communication between characters and it is also a

form of action in a play. Dialogue is a very important because it makes us is about in the play understand the plot what means the place of the action of the play.

Types of theatre or theatre styles

We have many types of theatre and styles such as African, Asian, Chinese Japanese , Middle Eastern theatre (Syrian , Lebanese , Egyptian theatre etc)

We will be studying the history of drama . Antigone belongs to the western drama

Now what do we mean by classical Greek drama ?

Antigone belongs to classical Greek drama . When you look at the history of the western drama , we can say that classical drama is the origin of all other dramas. It is the origin source.

There were three kinds of drama . Tragedy , comedy , and Satyr.

When ancient Greece performed tragedy , they wore **masks** and the masks were beautiful because they represent the elite and royal people . In comedy , the masks looked ugly and funny because they represent the lower classes or poor people

Satyrs are originally mythical creature . They are half human and half of horses , and it is a form of drama .

It is an ancient Greek of tragicomedy . It features elements of Greek mythology . It focuses on drunkenness' , humor , and rude sexuality

Classical Greek drama took place between 500-400 . During this period , Greece was occupied by Persian Empire . it also witnessed its independence from the Persian Empire , and it had a great influence on Rome and modern civilization today. Much of modern western politics , artistic thoughts architectures , archaeology , literature science and mathematics were influenced by classical Greece.

We have five Greek dramatists whose works survived until today , they are Sophocles the one who wrote Antigone . Aescylus , and also Euripies. These were tragedian who wrote tragedies . We also have other two comedians and they are Arisophanes and Menader, those wrote comedies

Now what do we mean by classical and classics?

Classical studies mean studying languages , literature , philosophy . law mathematics , archaeology , etc that was produced in ancient Greece and ancient Rome .

The study of classical literature (Greek and Rome) was the principle of the humanities.

Classical Rome

The Roman power was powerful at that time and they were able to occupy many Greek lands and they were able to encounter Greek drama . So the ancient Romans were introduced to Greek drama by means of the occupation and that many countries around the world dating back to Rome .

Only two Roman tragedians survived to our day. They are Senaca and Anonymous .

Medieval Drama

The middle ages

In middle ages , drama was religious and it was controlled by church . What was the focus of the mystery and miracle play? They focused on religious subjects of creation . How God created the world , salvation , resurrection , heaven and hell etc. These kinds of plays were performed near Church because they are religious plays , so the creation , Adam and Eve , the murder of Abel Christmas , the last judgment etc were the subject of the medieval drama

The mystery plays

The mystery plays are sequences of performances, sometimes referred to as ‘cycle plays’ because they make up a cycle of 48 surviving short play lets. Throughout the 15th and into the 16th century, around 300 years before the building of the London playhouses, these cycles were the most popular and enduring form of theatre in Britain, performed annually in the biggest towns and cities of the country.

They are most commonly known as the 'mystery plays' for two reasons. First, they took the mysteries of God as their primary theme. They aimed to show, in the course of a day, the whole history of the universe from the creation of Heaven and Earth to the Last Judgment – the end of the world, when everyone on earth will be judged by God and divided between Heaven and Hell, salvation and damnation. Secondly, these plays were organized, funded and produced by syndicates which were also called 'mysteries' in the Middle Ages. Syndicates were associations of craftsmen or merchants, who were in charge of regulating and teaching their trade; they were often wealthy and wielded considerable power.

Renaissance Drama

Renaissance: rebirth, a cultural movement that invaded Europe during the 15th and the 16th centuries.

The factors that brought about the Renaissance:

1-The capture of Constantinople (1453): by the Ottoman Turks, which drove many scholars to Italy. These fugitives revived classical learning after publishing scores of valuable manuscripts of the ancient Greek classics.

2-The invention of printing by John Gothenburg (1400-1467): William Caxton brought printing to England in 1476. Printing made literature available to people.

3- The development of banking and investments: This created a wealthy influential merchant class in the growing cities.

4- The accomplishment of great voyages: which led to the discovery of the new world.

5- The translation movement: which enriched the English thought as many volumes of Greek , Latin, and French literature were translated into English.

المحاضرة الثانية

The English Renaissance: the 16th century:

It helped to shake off the darkness of the Middle Ages (Dark Ages) which were called so because the Catholic Church ,which was the only dominant institution , did not encourage Arts and Science. The ancient classics were considered as heathen and, therefore, destroyed.

- For the Medieval church, life on earth did not count ,and the watchword was "think of the life to come"

- The medieval drama was religious and acted in the Church courtyard by priests .Poets and writers created only religious works and those plays were called mystery or morality plays, and miracle plays (Dr. Faustus – Volpone). They were afraid to write about murders , battles ,adultery and all kinds of vices because they were against the teachings of Christ.

- **Queen Elizabeth** : the Renaissance which was invading Europe took its way to England in the second half of the 16th century. The watchword became " Enjoy yourself in life on earth and the nature surrounding you ,do not bother about life after death" . "One should make himself in Paradise on earth itself". HUMANITISM became the spirit of age, instead of God. They were seeking perfection.

Why was the Elizabethan Age called the Golden Age?

1- Great discoveries were made under great sailors like Drake.

2- English Commerce increased as a result of the destruction of the Spanish Armanda 1558

3- The establishment of the England's church stopped the flow of England's riches to Rome

4- Prosperity of the country reflected on its people who began to give importance to art and literature.

5- Discovery of printing spread education

Modern drama

We have many kinds of theatres concerning to modern drama . They are musical theatre the theatre of oppressed , theatre of absurd and Cabaret

Musical theatre is a form of theatrical performance that contains songs . It uses spoken dialogue , acting and dancing e.g the Black Swan , Beauty and the Beast and the sound of music

The theatre of the oppressed . Augusto Boat was Brazilian who was the first founder of this theatre. Its technique is to use theatre as a mean of promoting social and political change.

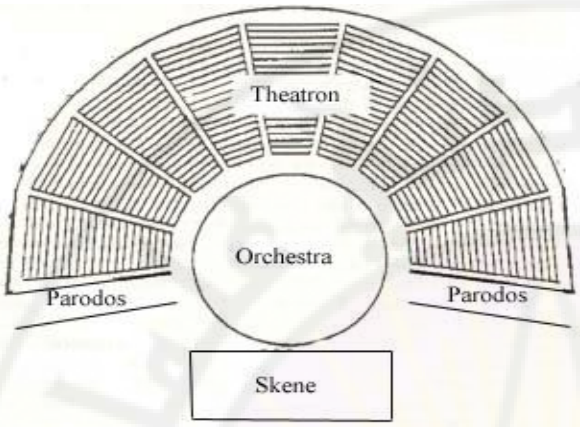
The theatre of absurd : Absurdity is about lack and absence of meaning . Absurd means meaningless or none sensible . the theatre of the absurd was primarily written by the European playwright in the late 1940's during the time of the world 11, we know that during wars people suffer a lot . They lose faith and they start asking questions about God and the meaning or the purpose of life. Some of the most famous absurd dramatists are Samuel Becket, Jean Genet and Harold Pinter

Cabaret , when we say cabaret , we think of ladies , drinks dancing sexuality etc . Cabaret is distinguished by the performance at restaurants

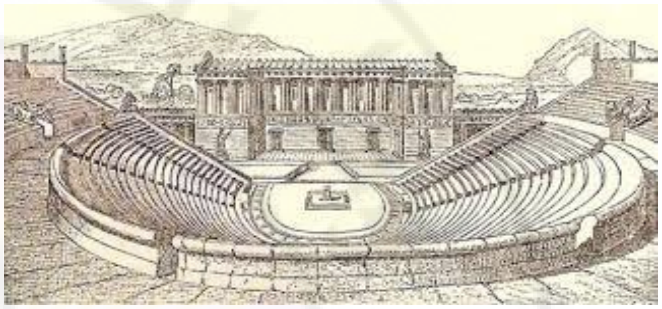
pubs or night clubs with a stage for performance . The audience usually drink , eat and watch a the performances . They usually sit at tables and enjoy the performance

The structure of ancient Greek theatre

Theatre buildings were called a theatron. The theaters were large, open-air structures constructed on the slopes of hills. They consisted of three main elements: the orchestra, parodose the skene, and the roof of the skene



Parts of a Greek Theater



The structure of Greek plays

They are prologue,parados first episode scene first strophe antistrophe and exodus

Prologue: A monologue or dialogue preceding the entry of the chorus, which presents the tragedy's topic.

In the prologue , the playwright gives information about mythology

Exodus(Exit Ode): The exit song of the chorus after the last episode

Parados : it is a song by the chorus as it first enters the ochestra

First episode or first scene there are several episodes (typically 3-5) in which one or two actors interact with the chorus. They are, at least in part, sung or chanted.

First strophe or antistrophe:strophe is a part of a song or an ode . Antistrophe is the other part of a song. At the end of each scene the characters leave the story and the chorus sings a song or an ode which works as curtain to separate scenes .

المحاضرة الثالثة

Religion in ancient Greece

Religion was important to the ancient Greeks because they believed that it would make their lives better while they were living. They also believed the gods would take care of them when they died. The Ancient Greeks believed in many different gods and goddesses. The Greeks believed that these gods and goddesses controlled everything in their lives and the environment. There was a god for every aspect of their lives. It was important to please the gods; happy gods helped you, but unhappy gods punished you. People had special places in their homes where they could pray to the gods. There were also public shrines in all sorts of places where people could pray and leave presents.

Temples

The Greeks built temples in every town for one god or goddess. The temples were not like modern places of worship, for ordinary people to pray in. They were homes for statues of gods, which were cared for by priests.

Priests

Priests were important people in the community. They were believed to have the power to talk to the gods and so were respected and trusted.

Greek gods

The Ancient Greeks believed that all the gods came from **Gaia** (the Earth) and **Uranos** (the sky).They thought they were like adult humans - always falling in love, arguing, having children, playing music and partying. Like the Romans, the Greeks believed that different gods were responsible for different things.

There were many gods in ancient Greek religion mythology called Olympians

1-**Zeus**

(Roman name Jupiter) Married to Hera. Zeus is lord of the sky, the rain god. His weapon is a thunderbolt which he hurls at those who displease him.

2-Poseidon

Brother of Zeus. The God of the **sea** and worshiped by seamen. He married Amphitrite. His weapon is a trident, which can shake the earth, and shatter any object. He is second most powerful god.

3-Hades

Brother of Zeus. God of the underworld, ruling over the dead. He is also the god of wealth, due to the precious metals mined from the earth. Hades has a helmet that makes him invisible. Hades springs out of the earth and captures **Persephone**, dragging her off to be his queen in the Underworld. Her mother Demeter searches for her and stops all foods from growing until Persephone is returned. Finally, a deal is worked out where Persephone stays one-third of the year with Hades, one-third of the year serving as a handmaiden to Zeus at Mount Olympus, and one-third with her mother.

4-Aphrodite

Wife of Hephaestus. Goddess of love, desire and beauty. Aphrodite rises from the foam of the waves of the sea, enchanting anyone who sees her and inciting feelings of love where ever she goes.

The myrtle is her tree. The dove, the swan, and the sparrow her birds

5-Hestia

Sister of Zeus. Goddess of the Home. Each city had a public hearth sacred to Hestia, where the fire was never allowed to go out.

6-Hera

Married to Zeus and is his sister too. Hera is the goddess of marriage and childbirth. Her sacred animals are the cow and the peacock

7-Ares

Son of Zeus and Hera. God of war. His bird is the vulture. His animal is the dog.

8-Apollo

He is the son of Zeus. Apollo is the god of music, playing a golden lyre. The Archer, far shooting with a silver bow. The god of healing who taught man medicine. The god of light. The god of truth, who cannot speak a lie. His tree was the laurel. The crow his bird. The dolphin his animal

9-Artemis

Daughter of Zeus and Leto. Her twin brother is Apollo . Artemis is the huntsman of the gods. She is the protector of the young. Like Apollo she hunts with silver arrows.

10-Athena

Daughter of Zeus. She sprang full grown in armor from his forehead, thus has no mother. Goddess of the city, handicrafts, and agriculture. She invented the bridle, which permitted man to tame horses, the trumpet, the flute, the pot, the rake, the plow, the yoke, the ship, and the chariot. Her tree is the olive. The owl is her bird.

11-**Hermes**

Son of Zeus and Maia. He is the messenger of the gods. He is the fastest of the gods. He wears winged sandals, a winged hat, and carries a magic

wand. Hermes is the god of thieves and god of commerce. He is the guide for the dead to go to the underworld.

12-Hephaestus

Son of Zeus and Hera. His wife is Aphrodite. He is the only god to be physically ugly. He is also lame. Accounts as to how he became lame vary. Some say that Hera, upset by having an ugly child, flung him from Mount Olympus into the sea, breaking his legs. Others that he took Hera's side in an argument with Zeus and Zeus flung him off Mount Olympus. Hephaestus is the god of fire and the forge. He uses a volcano as his forge. He is the patron god of both smiths and weavers.

13-Eros

He is known as cupid in the Roman mythology and he is the god of sexual desire.

14-Dionysus

He is the god of wine and theatre ,so because of him we, have theatre today

Did the ancient Greek believe in the after life?

The Greeks had a definite belief that there was a journey to the afterlife or another world. They believed that death was not a complete end to life or human existence. The Greeks accepted the existence of the soul after death, but saw this afterlife as meaningless.

The underworld is the place in Greek mythology where people go when they die. The underworld is controlled by **Hades**, one of the three main gods.

Tartarus is another place of the underworld which is like the hell . It is the place of torture and torment.

Finally , we have Elysium , a place of pleasure . It is like heaven

In Greek mythology , Lethe is one of five rivers of Hades. It is believed that if you drink the water of this river ,you will forget everything of your healthy life.

How did the world emerge

We know from the bible and Quran that the world had been created by God within six days . And we have the story of apple which was the cause of falling of Adam and Eve . Thus we have beautiful humanity on the earth .

But here the story is different . There was no god . According to the story. There was chaos . Different religious people believe that the world had been created in different ways .

One Greek creation myth started that at first there was only primordial god called Chaos. Chaos gave birth to Gaia , Tarartus and Eros . These gave birth to Titanand the Titans gave birth to Olympians .

Ancient Greeks believed that the family of god lived in an amount palace called Olympus , so these gods and goddess lived in mount Olympus , the highest mountain in Greece . They had special powers and each one of them had a different control of different aspect of life .

The gods and goddess , unlike our God , were perfect . They made mistakes just like human beings

At times certain gods would be opposed or anything similar to our God

Festival in Ancient Greek

Some of the most important festivals of ancient Greece involved **athletic** competition, such as the Olympic Games, which were held in honour of Zeus, and the Pythian Games, held at Delphi in honour of Apollo. One festival in Athens, held to honour Dionysos, involved a competition between playwrights.

Did the encient Greek have morals ?Did they believe in good and evil?

One of the most of moral concepts to Greek was the fear of committing hubris . if you do that you will be punished by gods , though pride and vanity were not considered as sins in themselves . The Greeks emphasized the moderation . It is important when we study Antigone . Pride becomes hubris when it went exterm.

What type of government did they have?

It was composed of city –state . Every city had its own government its own law , its own education system and its own ruler . in time of wars , these city state would unite together to fight and face the enemy.

What was the situation of women like ?

All the sources told that ancient Greek speak of men's world .power was given to men and women were controlled , contained ,and often exploited by men. Women were required to be silence.

Women at Athens

A respectable woman's main role in ancient Athens **was to stay home,** keep pretty, and bear children. Her life centered on the house and the children. Most citizen wives had slaves to do the cooking, cleaning, and grocery shopping. Once she gave birth, her father could not take her back.

Athenian women were not considered full citizens . They were not equal to men. Women were considered brainless .

Women at Sparta

Unlike Athenian women , Sparta women enjoyed status , power and respect. Spartan women excluded from military and political life ,so when men go to war , Spartan women , mothers and wives would be allowe to run property, the house

Unlike Athenian women who wore heavy clothes and rarely seen outside the house . Spartan women were short – dressed and went whenever they pleased. They rarely married before the age of 20 .

Education of women

Education was very important in ancient Greek and it was essential to build a person's identity . the type of education that a person received was based on one's social class the culture and the opinion of one's culture.

Teaching women at that time was dangerous . Education in ancient Greeks was allotted only for men not to slaves and women

A young girl would receive informal education from her mother and would be taught how to serve the house or her father , so she would be taught how to cook , clean the house or to weave and etc.But Spartan women unlike Athenian women received a formal education that were trained to help the soldiers to become better fighter .

Damascus University

المحاضرة الرابعة (٤)

last lecture , we talked about Greek mythology .We said that ancient Greeks don't believe in God that we know .

They have twelve gods and these are the Olympians . In the beginning ,there was Chaos which means the absence of the universe or the nothingness ,then we have Gaia , the goddess of the earth.

So, in the beginning there was Chaos and it gave birth to Gaia and Uranus the god of the sky and Gaia was the mother of the earth, these gods gave birth to Taratus Eros and Titans .

So , the first generation of gods was Gaia and Uranus, and the second generation was Tartarus Eros and Titans and these three gave to the twelve Olympians and the Olympians gave birth to humanity.

Humans were so powerful and they could compete with gods .So the Olympians decided to cut them in half and this was the last form of humanity which is our form.

The Titans and the Olympians were fighting most of the times and eventually , the Olympians took control for themselves.

Zeus took the sky . Poseidon took the seas and the oceans , and hades took the underworld . This is how the story happened.

Sophocles

Sophocles was an ancient Greek playwright, born in Colonus near Athens, Greece in 496 B.C.E. His father, Sophilus, was a rich member of a small community, the rural 'Deme'. Sophocles was highly educated. He is one of three Greek tragedians whose plays have lived on. Sophocles wrote 123 plays out of which we have 7 complete plays. These are 'Ajax', '**Antigone**', 'The Women of Trachis', 'Oedipus the King', 'Electra', 'Philoctetes' and 'Oedipus at Colonus'.

He took part in competitions and even won over the two popular playwrights

Aeschylus and Euripides

His most popular plays also known as the 'Theban Plays' are 'Oedipus' and 'Antigone'. He began his artistic journey in 468 BC, with winning a prize for his play and leaving behind Aeschylus in the competition. When he was sixteen he led the '**paean'** which was a chant for the Gods after the Greek victory over the Persians. He brought many innovations to the Greek play style. One of his advances was the introduction of a third actor which gave him the chance of creating and developing his characters in further depth.

Sophocles was famous for his trilogy and Antigone is one of it . This is the Theban play . It took place in Thebes in Greece.

This trilogy focuses on the legend of Oedipus . The story of Oedipus is the subject of Sophocles' tragedy **Oedipus Rex**, which is followed in the narrative sequence by Oedipus at Colonus and then **Antigone**. Together, these plays make up Sophocles' **three Theban plays.** Oedipus represents two enduring themes of Greek myth and drama: the flawed nature of humanity and an individual's role in the course of destiny in a harsh universe.

Antigone

In ancient Greece, Antigone is mostly related to the myth that was told by the Ancient Greek playwright Sophocles.

Antigone was the daughter of King Oedipus of Thebes and Jocasta. The story says, Oedipus, the son of Laius and Jocasta, killed his father Laius and became the king of Thebes. Oedipus unknowingly married his own mother Jocasta and had children by her. Thus, Antigone was the daughter and the sister of Oedipus.

Oedipus soon discovered that Laius and Jocasta were his true parents. Jocasta, in depression hanged herself. Oedipus blinded himself with her broaches and left the city. **Creon** (Jocasta's brother) took care of Jocasta's

daughters **namely Antigone and Ismene and sons, namely Polyneices and Eteocles.**

When Oedipus left the kingdom of Thebes, the kingdom was entrusted to Creon, as Oedipus sons were too young to become rulers.Later, the brothers started fighting over who will rule Thebes. Being the older brother, P**olyneices** believed he had the birthright, but **Eteocles**expelled him. Polyneices with an army invaded **Thebes** - in which both the brothers died. Thus once more Creon ascended to the throne.

Creon declared that Eteocles would be honored with burial since he fought for Thebes, while Polyneices' will not be buried with honors.

Antigone tried to secure a respectable burial for her brother Polynices, even though he was a traitor to Thebes. Her sister Ismene opposed her saying woman cannot fight with men, as they are stronger. But Antigone was not afraid of death, and believed she would die with nobility.

Now the king threatened to stone to death to whom he tries to bury him . He announced that his body must lie in the field as a sweet treasure for wild birds to find for food . He wanted to punish him because he thought that he was a traitor because he killed his brother Eteocles.

Creon became the king of Thebes and married to Eurydice .Their son Haimon was in love with Antigone . They were engaged to be married .So Creon became the new king of Thebes , so he decided to bury one brother Eteocles and considered him as a national hero because he defended the city, but he refused to bury the other brother Polynnices , because he attacked his brother Antigone wanted to bury her brother and acted against the king’s order because she believed that if she does not bury her brother his soul can’t rest in place . However , if she buried him ,

she would be punished by stoning to death in public square . She died any away but she was not stoned to death . She committed suicide when she was locked alive to die slowly .

The legend of Oedipus

The legend Oedipus was the famous story which Greek people were very familiar with. It was known as Oedipus complex.

The father and the mother of Oedipus were Laius and Jocasta . They gave birth to a baby his name was Oedipus . There was a prophecy at that tme of Oedipus ;s birth . He is going to kill his father and marry his mother in the future .

When the king and the queen heard the prophecy , they went mad. They decided to sent him away to die. They gave the baby to a shepherd and the shepherd left Oedipus on the mountain , but he felt pity to leave a baby on there because he knew that the baby would be eaten by animals . So he decided to take him to a new king and queen. Now, Oedipus was raised by a new family and when he grew up and became a man , he heard the prophecy saying soon that he will kill his father and will marry his mother, so he decided to run away and leave the city where he was raised believing that the family that raised him is his true biological family. He left for Thebes and he met aman and had a fight with him and killed him. It turned out that he killed his father ,but did not know . When he went to the city , there was a riddle over the city put by a monster named Sphinx .Oedipus was very clever enough to solve the riddle of Thebes, and once he solved the riddle , he was crowned as the king of the Thebes and married his mother Jocasta . Now he became a king , he wanted to know who killed the old king. He started investigation until he found out that he was a murder . After years and years , he could not find out who killed Liaus and when he find out that he killed the old king , and his mother was his wife . Immediately ,Oedipus kicked out his eyes so, here came Antigone . She took care of her father when he was

blinded and took him to Colonus . After that , the two brothers decided to rule the city of Thebes . Both of them had an agreement that every year one brother would rule . However , Eteocles betrayed his brother and

decided to take the throne for himself that is why Polynnices decided to attack Thebes and take the throne back for himself.This is how the civil war began and the two brothers killed each other. Their uncle Creon became the new king and

he prevented anyone for burying Polynnices . Antigone decided to rebel ,she opposed the negligence of her another brother and this is where the story of Antigone began: she must decide whether to follow her uncle’s rule or those of her heart.

المحاضرة الخامسة (٥)

Today , we will start analyzing and discussing the play.

Read the following passage in page 6 line 16

Antigone

Creon buried our brother Eteoclês With military honors, gave him a soldier's funeral, And it was right that he should; but Polyneicês, They fought as bravely and died as miserably,-- They say that Creon has sworn No one shall burry him, no one mourn for him, But this body must lie in the fields, a sweet treasure For carrion birds to find as they search for food. That is what they say, and our good Creon is coming here To announce it publicly; and the penalty — Stoning to death I the public squarel There it is, And now you can prove what you are: A true sister, or a traitor to your family.

Notice the question which is raised by Sophocles whether we should or we should not bury someone who attacked his own city . Polynnices attacked his own city by the help of another army as well as his own army. He attacked his people and killed his brother who took to the throne from him. So the question is Do we bury such a person ? Does he deserve burial. This is what Sophocles tried to raise and this and this is the problem of the tragedy.

Sophocles tries to question human justice , loyalty to a family , the issue of burial , and responsibility

Antigone here is trying to take action . She wants Ismene to help her to bury her brother.

ISMENE:

I do not understand you. Help you in what?

The question Was Antigone justified by her actions?

In fact Antigone is trying to fulfill the divine law . The divine law at that time is clear if the person is not buried his spirit would not rest in peace and reach the underworld which was

quite problematic at that time So , he was faithful not only for her family , but for the gods too.

The play Antigone , in fact , expresses principle constants of conflicts . These constants are five.

1-the confrontation of the individual and society

2- the conflict between the divine law and human law.

3- the conflict between man and woman

4-Age vs youth

5- the confrontation of the living and the dead.

Line 44 to line 53 in page 7

ISMENE:

But oh, Antigone, Think how much more terrible than these Our own death would be if we should go against Creon And do what he has forbidden! We are only women, We cannot fight with men, Antigone! The law is strong, we must give in to the law In this thing, and in worse. I beg the Dead To forgive me, but I am helpless: I must yield 50 To those in authority. And I think it is dangerous business To be always meddling.

Ismene is afraid of death . Creon is her uncle but at the same time he would kill her if she broke his rules. She does not want to die . This is the human nature . She likes the life .

This passage shows that women were underrated and they were not equal to men . They had no identities .They were not considered full citizens and they had no rights or personhood .Ismene thought that women had to obey the rules . What could worse than having you own unburied to be eaten by wild animals in the desert. Ismene can be seen as realistic maybe , but at the same time we have an emergency situation . She is aware of the punishment of the god . This is why she is seeking for forgiveness of the dead . She thought that she was helpless , and had now power , and must yield to those in authority ,and they were men in authority .

Antigone was aware that there is a higher authority than the authority of men.

This passage shows the situation of women at the same time . They were weak , silent , powerless and had no rights but Antigone and Ismene were not ordinary women , they were the daughters of the king . They were princesses of Thebes.We can value the situation that Polynnices and Eteocles were punished enough when they killed each other in the battle , so

Creon did what he do because he thinks that it is his job as a ruler. He wants to protect the city following the civil war between the two brothers .Here comes Antigone to tell that he should be relieved because even kings are imperfect.

Hegal says on the commentary on Antigone

"Antigone is not right nor Creon . Both of them are equally right and equally wrong . It depends in what perspective you take .

Look at the line 54-60

ANTIGONE:

If that is what you think, I should not want you, even if you asked to come. You have made your choice, you can be what you want to be. But I will bury him; and if I must die, I say that this crime is holy: I shall lie down With him in death, and I shall be as dear To him as he to me. It is the dead Not the living, who make the longest demands: We die for ever… You may do as you like Since apparently the laws of the god mean nothing to you.

What does mean by holy crime ?

It is crime in the eyes of the government or the human law but it is holy in the eyes of the god . Antigone is torn between the human law and the divine law.

I shall lie down

With him in death,

She means : even in death , I will unite with him . Once Creon kills me , I will unite with my brother.

'it is the dead'

Not the living , who make the longest demands we die for ever

Here Antigone is announcing her loyalty to her brother and the gods of the underworld Hades and Persephone . She is aware of the actions and showed her faith in gods .

Antigone's action was maybe motivated by her beliefs in god . She is trying to show her loyalty for her family and gods I think she was not blinded by her beliefs in gods . She is not like Ismene . Ismene is scared of Creon more than the gods of the underworld . Antigone reminds us of the perfection and that is what she represent in the play.

Divine law VS Human law

Let's move to line 77 to 81

ANTIGONE:

Go away, Ismene: I shall be hating you soon, and the dead will too, For your words are hateful. Leave me my foolish plan: I am not afraid of the danger; if it means death, 80 It will not be the worst of deaths — death without honor.

This passage shows that Antigone is afraid of the divine law and maybe that her death would be in the service of gods . This is why she considers her crime a holy crime and her death is honorable .

Men VS women

Page 22 line 375

CHORAGOS:

Like father, like daughter: both headstrong, deaf to reason! 375 She has never learned to yield. She has much to learn. The inflexible heart breaks first, the toughest iron Cracks first, and the wildest horses bend their necks At the pull of the smallest curb. Pride? In a slave? This girl is guilty of a double insolence, 380 Breaking the given laws and boasting of it. Who is the man here, She or I, if this crime goes unpunished? Sister's child, or more than sister's child, Or closer yet in blood—she and her sister 385 Win bitter death for this!

Creon: She has much to learn --------- win bitter for this

We have two men talking to each other . What does their dialogue tell us about the situation of women back then ? According to what that what was expected from women at time . They were treated as slaves .They were like slaves or properties .

You can buy and sell them . They were nothing in comparison with men ,that is what Creon thought .

Pride was considered as a sin . If you have too much pride , you will be punished by gods . So Creon here thought that she was too pride and she must be punished . Her crime was breaking Croon's law and she had hubris . She was showing off what she did . she challenged the king.

'She is acting like a man ,

I will show her who the man here is'

This shows that Creon is a chauvinist man . He wants to tame her the way he would tame a horse.

Page 25; lin2 423-428

CREON:

You too, Ismene, Snake in my ordered house, sucking my blood 425 Stealthily—and all the time I never knew That these two sisters were aiming at my throne!

He saying that they are plotting against him to get to throne . He wants to put an end to this rebellion.

Age VS Youth

Page 30 line 518-524

Creon

Do you want me to show myself weak before the people? Or to break my sworn word? No, and I will not. The woman dies. 520 I suppose she'll plead "family ties." Well, let her. If I permit my own family to rebel, How shall I earn the world's obedience? Show me the man who keeps his house in hand, He's fit for public authority.

The speaker is Creon and he is addressing his son Haimon .

What was Haimon trying to do ?

Haimon was trying to save Antigone ; but Creon kept refusing until the very end and it was late . Creon is refusing to change his order about Antigone .

'I suppose she will plead family ties'

He thought that Antigone would come to him and plead . He is trying argue as a politician , that if he can't control a family , he will not be able to rule acity.This play show that the politicians and kings are imperfect . They are mistakable. If a politician shows himself as a weak person maybe there would be a rebellion.

Anyway , Creon sees anarchy as a cancer , once it spreads it destroys the body and can't be stopped . He fears that if he accepts to let Antigone do what she wants , there will be rebellion

Damascus University

المحاضرةالسادسة (٦)

Last time , we talked about five conflicts in the play . Now we are going to talk about **Age VS Youth .** in this play there is a number of characters who represent this kind of this conflict , the conflict between the old and the young . e.g Antigone VS Creon

Move to page 31 line 543 -558

HAIMON:

[Boyishly earnest.]

Father: Reason is God's crowing gift to man, and you are right To warn me against losing mine. I cannot say— I hope that I shall never want to say! —that you Have reasoned badly. Yet there are other men Who can reason, too; and their opinions might be helpful. You are not in a position to know everything That people say or do, or what they feel: Your temper terrifies them—everyone Will tell you only what you like to hear. But I, at any rate, can listen; and I have heard them Muttering and whispering in the dark about this girl. They say no woman has ever, so unreasonably, Died so shameful a death for a generous act: "She covered her brother's body. Is this indecent? She kept him from dogs and vultures. Is this a crime? Death? —She should have all the honor that we can give her!" This is the way they talk out there in the city.

Here , Hiamon is trying to talk wisely to his father about Antigone's issue .He is trying to direct his father about Antigone . You can see that the relationship between the king and the people of Thebes is based on fear and awe. The people of Thebes think what Antigone is a brave girl because of what she did about her brother burial. Antigone showed her bravery when she challenged the king's law and did what she wanted to do . In Hiam's introduction we can judge that Haimon has qualitiesof a good leader . He is unlike his father , the king who does not listen and he does not act emotionally . Hiamon is very reasonable man.

Page 45 line 842-849

TEIRESIAS:

Then take this, and take it to heart! The time is not far off when you shall pay back Corpse for corpse, flesh of your own flesh. You have thrust the child of this world into living night, You have kept from the gods below the child that is theirs.The one on a grave before her death, the other, Dead, denied the grave. This is your crime: And the Furies and the dark gods of Hell Are swift with terrible punishment for you. Do you want to buy me now, Creon.

Teiresias is a soothsayer who tells for the future . He is described as an old blind man led by a boy . He is known as a prophet and he is gifted in the art of knowing the future .

However , Creon at the beginning , did not trust Treiresias.

The conflect between Creon and the prophet echoes between Creon and Antigone .

This passage explain how her uncle locked her up in the vault alive to die slowly

" You have thrust the child of this world into living night'

You have kept from the gods below the child that is theirs

The reference , here , is Polynnices and howthe king prevented his burial .

Furies means the spirit who pursue and torment . So they are the spirit of punishment and they are going to punish Creon for preventing the burial of Polynnices and for punishing Antigone unjustly.

What about Tragedy?

Tragedy was born in Greece in 5th century B.C . It means in Greek language tragos and the word tragos means 'song of the goat" the goat at that time was a symbol of Dionysus The god of wine , fertility and the theatre . The goat stands for the practices of the ancient Dionysian cult.Aristotle , the Greek philosopher said that both tragedy and comedy originated in improvisation in choral songs at fertility festival honoring Dionysus . Some explain that tragedy evolve d as one speaker stepped away from and began to interact with it as an individual.

So this how tragedy and comedy came to be ; people would come to the theater to honor and to worship Dionysus . They would have a chorus . In the middle of the orchestra , we had an alter . In the alter they would sacrifice . It was a religious occasion to be in the theater. However , when one individual began to step away the group of the chorus and started to have dialogue with the chorus , that moment of time was the beginning of the drama both tragedy and comedy.

During Dionysus . Ancient Greek celebrated the rebirth of the year , the renewal of life after death . The year in winter . Dionysus took place in spring and spring is a time of rebirth.

How is this related to our tragedy?

When the king Creon , at the end of the play . realized that it was too late to know that what he did was wrong . That was the moment of spiritual rebirth.

How does Aristotle define a tragedy?

According to Aristotle , tragedy is the imitation of an action that is serious and also , as having a magnitude , complete in itself. In appropriate and pleasurable language in a dramatic rather than narrative form ; with incident s arousing pity and fear , where with to accomplish Catharsis of the emotions'

In his point of view about tragedy , Aristotle thinks that a trgedy has to be an imitation of an action and this action has to be serious , complete and elevated . The characters come from royal families . Aristotle said that the language in which you write ancient tragedy has to be poetic and artistic and it should written in a form of drama ; dialogue not narrative . He said that a tragedy a rouses pity and fear for the audience . At the end you feel released of bad emption , that play makes you feel we call it catharsis or purgation. It provides you a moral lesson . The catharsis is achieved when the audience learn the moral lesson.

Aristotle argues classical tragedies have to have three unities.

1- the unity of time ; the action must occur within twenty four hours

2- the unity of place ; a play takes action in one place .

3- the unity of action ; it focuses around the plot.

Aristotle characteristics of tragedies

1- no violence on stage

2- protagonist VS antagonist

Now move to page 10 line 98-104

CHORUS:

[Antistrophe 1] Against our seven gates in a yawning ring The famished spears came onward in the night; But before his jaws were sated with our blood, Or pine fire took the garland of our towers, He was thrown back; and as he turned, great Thebes— No tender victim for his noisy power— Rose like a dragon behind him, shouting war.

This passage describes the battle in the play ; here the army of Polynnices seiged the city and wanted to attack it but the city defined itself

The 2nd characteristics is the protagonist VS antagonist

‘Aristotle’s definition of protagonist ’

Aristotle observe that a protagonist of a tragedy is a person of high rank; usually a king or a queen or any member of the family . It is a nature of tragedy that a protagonist must fall from power , dignity and happiness .

So , in our play the protagonist is Creon because his fall influences the entire people in Thebes.

At the same time , Antigone could be seen as a protagonist because she is the one who disturbs the world by breaking her uncle’s law . She drives the action , her suicide causes her fiancée to stab himself which makes Creon ‘s wife commit suicide.

What do we mean by the tragic hero?

Tragic heroes are not superheroes . They are fallible and not complete .The tragic hero recognizes his flaw and its results.

Now move to page 32- 33 and read it well

CREON:

You think it right to stand up for an anarchist? 590

HAIMON:

Not at all. I pay no respect to criminals.

CREON:

Then she is not a criminal?

HAIMON:

The City proposes to teach me how to rule?

CREON:

And the City proposes to teach me how to rule?

HAIMON:

Ah. Who is it that’s talking like a boy now? 595

CREON:

My voice is the one voice giving orders in this City!

HAIMON:

It is no City if it takes orders from one voice.

CREON:

The State is the King!

HAIMON:

Yes, if the State is a desert.

[Pause.]

CREON:

This boy, it seems, has sold out to w woman.

HAIMON:

If you are a woman: my concern is only for you. 600

CREON:

So? Your "concern"! In a public brawl with your father!

HAIMON:

How about you, in a public brawl with justice?

CREON:

With justice, when all that I do is within my rights?

HAIMON:

You have no right to trample on God's right.

CREON: [Completely out of control.]

Fool, adolescent fool! Taken in by a woman!

HAIMON:

You'll never see me taken in by anything vile.

CREON:

Every word you say is for her!

HAIMON: [Quietly, darkly.]

And for you.

And for me. And for the gods under the earth.

CREON:

You'll never marry her while she lives.

HAIMON:

Then she must die. —But her death will cause another. 610

CREON:

Another?

Have you lost your senses? Is this an open threat?

HAIMON:

There is no threat in speaking to emptiness.

CREON:

I swear you'll regret this superior tone of yours!

You are the empty one!

HAIMON:

If you were not my father,

I'd say you were perverse.

CREON:

You girlstruck fool, don't play at words with me!

HAIMON:

I am sorry. You prefer silence.

CREON:

Now, by God—!

I swear, by all the gods in heaven above us,

You'll watch it, I swear you shall

This dialogue between the father and the son shows us the tragic flaw in Creon character. Creon is accusing his son as a traitor because he is trying to help Antigone

Page 43 line 803-8011

Teiresias

O my son,

These are no trifles! Think: all men make mistakes,

But a good man yields when he knows his course is wrong,

And repairs the evil. The only crime is pride.

Give in to the dead man, then: do not fight with a corpse—

What glory is it to kill a man who is dead?

Think, I beg you:

It is for your own good that I speak as I do.

You should be able to yield for your own good.

This passage is said by Teiresias .until now Creon did not change his mind . Antigone , Hiamon and Teiresias tried to bend his opinion but he is still stubborn .

Creon as a tragic here hero experienced a moment of awaking and then changed .

Move to page 53 line 987-993

CREON:

Nothing you say can touch me an more.

My own blind heart has brought me

From darkness to final darkness. Here you see

The father murdering, the murdered son—

And all my civic wisdom!

Haimon my son, so young, so young to die,

I was the fool, not you; and you died for me.

In this passage Creon recognizes his tragic flaw which is pride . In the last page line **1034-1038** recognizes that he is the cause of his son and wife death.

CREON:

L*ead me away. I have been rash and foolish.*

I have killed my son and my wife. 1035

I look for comfort; my comfort lies here dead.

Whatever my hands have touched has come to nothing.

Fate has brought all my pride to a thought of dust.

The characteristics of the chorus .

The word chorus comes from the Greek word Choreo and it means to dance . They would dance in the orchestra which means ‘dance floor” the role of the chorus is to give the audience background information about the tragedy . For example, they give the audience details about the battle which we did not see on the stage .

Page 18 line 295

{Antistrophe 2]

O clear intelligence, force beyond all measure!

O fate of man, working both good and evil!

When the laws are kept, how proudly his city stands!

When the laws are broken, what of his city then?

Never may the anarchic man find rest at my hearth,

Never be it said that my thoughts are his thoughts.

The chorus represents the people of Thebes . The people of the city Thebes are standing with the king against Antigone .

They want to ensure that the laws are respected and obeyed .The chorus also comments on the themes and they show how the audience might react of the drama . They could tell you about the hidden fears of the characters.

Page 27 line 465 ODE II

ODE II

CHORUS: [Strophe 1]

Fortunate is the man who has never tasted God's vengeance! 465

Where once the anger of heaven has struck, that house is shaken

For ever: damnation rises behind each child

Like a wave cresting out of the black northeast,

When the long darkness under sea roars up

And bursts drumming death upon the windwhipped sand.

This passage is talking about the curse of Oedipus family and escape one's fate .

Line 471

[Antistrophe 1]

I have seen this gathering sorrow from time long past

Loom upon Oedipus' children: generation from generation

Takes the compulsive rage of the enemy god.

So lately this last flower of Oedipus' line

Drank the sunlight! but now a passionate word

And a handful of dust have closed up all its beauty.

This passage explains the effect of the curse on Antigone . It might be saying that her action about her brother's burial might lead todeath

Page 27 Line 477

[Strophe 2]

What mortal arrogance

Transcends the wrath of Zeus?

Sleep cannot lull him, nor the effortless long months

Of the timeless gods: but he is young for ever,

And his house is the shining day of high Olympos.

All that is and shall be,

And all the past, is his.

No pride on earth is free of the curse of heaven.

In this passage , the chorus is accusing Antigone of being arrogant and the gods would not forgive this sin whether it is from a poor or powerful.

Move to ODE IIIpage 36 line 642

CHORUS:

Love, unconquerable [Strophe]

Waster of rich men, keeper

Of warm lights and all-night vigil

In the soft face of a girl:

Sea-wanderer, forest-visitor!

Even the pure Immortals cannot escape you,

And mortal man, in his one day's dusk,

Trembles before your glory.

Surely you swerve upon ruin [Antistrope]

The just man's consenting heart,

As here you have made bright anger

Strike between father and son—

And none has conquered but Love!

A girl's glance working the will of heaven:

Pleasure to her alone who mock us,

Merciless Aphrodite.

We see in first part of the ode that Antigone brought destruction to her because of her love for her family.

But in the 2nd part of the ode , they are talking about Hiamon and how he had to fight with his father because of his love to Antigone . So they are saying that whether you moral or immoral , you cannot escape from the danger of love . Aphrodite is making fun of everyone from the family.

Page 18 line 278

ODE I

CHORUS: [Strophe 1]

Numberless are the world's wonders, but none

More wonderful than man; the stormgray sea

Yields to his prows, the huge crests bear him high; 280

Earth, holy and inexhaustible, is graven

With shining furrows where his plows have gone

Year after year, the timeless labor of stallions

[Antistrope 1]

The lightboned birds and beasts that cling to cover, 285

The lithe fish lighting their reaches of dim water,

All are taken, tamed in the net of his mind;

The lion on the hill, the wild horse windy-maned

Resign to him; and his blunt yoke has broken

The sultry shoulders of the mountain bull.

In the 2nd part of the song is saying that every creature is under man's authority

Line 290

[Strophe 2]

Words also, ant thought as rapid as air, 290

He fashions to his good use; statecraft is his,

And his the skill that deflect the arrows of snow,

The spears of winter rain: from every wind

He has made himself secure—from all but one:

In the late wind of death he cannot stand.

Man is given authority and power over every creature except death. Death eill defeat man.

We notice that every song in the play has a theme or a moral lesson . The chorus are changeable , in the beginning of the play they were supporting Creon but later on , they are sympathetic to Antigone.

Civil disobedience in Antigone

When you read the play well , you see that Antigone buried her brother twice

Page 15 line 210-220

SENTRY:

I swear

Do not know! You must believe me!

Listen:

The ground was dry, not a sign of digging, no,

Not a wheel track in the dust, no trace of anyone.

It was when they relieved us this morning: and one of them,

The corporal, pointed to it.

There it was, 215

The strangest—

Look:

The body, just mounded over with light dust: you see?

Not buried really, but as if they'd covered it

Just enough for the ghost's peace. And no sign

Of dogs or any wild animal that had been there.

She mainly covered the body because it was too heavy for her to bury it in the ground.

The second burial ,line 338

sentry

Just so, when this girl

Found the bare corpse, and all her love's work wasted,

She wept, and cried on heaven to damn the hands 340

That had done this thing

And then she brought more dust

And sprinkled wine three times for her brother's ghost.

We ran and took her at once. She was not afraid,

Not even when we charged her with what she had done.

She denied nothing.

We know that between the first burial and the 2nd burial , the soldiers came to uncover the body and Antigone came to cover the body once more , She was determined to do what she did. Antigone went back after the body of Polynnices was uncovered and performed the rituals again and acts seen completely unmotivated by anything but her desire to be caught in the act of disobedience.

In Antigone Sophocles asks a question , which law is greater ; the law of man or divine law , and Sophocles votes for the divine law . Also in our tragedy , Sophocles warns his people about hubris because he believed this would be their downfall . Sophocles tries to give a moral lesson to his people not to follow the steps of Creon . Sophocles is the first thinker to

admit the individual's right to disobey unjust laws . He is the first one who writes about what we call civil disobedience .

What is civil disobedience?

It is against unjust laws without using violence . Some of the leaders of the activities of civil disobedience are

Henry David Thoreau 1817-1862

Martin Luther King 1929-1968

Rosa Parks 1913 -2005

Gandi 1898-1948

Nelson Mandela 1918 – 1013

Civil obedience is the refusal to obey unjust laws without using physical and verbal violence .The main goal of the civil disobedience is to call attention to the public to social and political issues.

This what Antigone did and that is why she returned to bury her brother twice because she wanted to call attention to everyone in Thebes .

Antigone did not defend herself when the leader came to arrest her.

Move to page 21 line 357-363

ANTIGONE:

I dared. It was not God's proclamation. That final Justice That rules the world below makes no such laws. Your edict, King, was strong, But all your strength is weakness itself against 360 The immortal unrecorded laws of God. They are not merely now: they were, and shall be, Operative for ever, beyond man utterly. I knew I must die, even without your decree: I am only mortal. And if I must die 365 Now, before it is my time to die, Surely this is no hardship: can anyone Living, as I live, with evil all about me, Think Death less than a friend? This death of mine Is of no importance; but if I had left my brother 370 Lying in death unburied, I should have suffered. Now I do not. You smile at me. Ah Creon, Think me a fool, if you like; but it may well be That a fool convicts me of folly.

We see here the conflict between the divine law and the human law . Antigone was not afraid of Creon or death . She has great faith that she is mortal . She is going to die anymore .Creon says that people should to obey him whether he is just or not .

At this moment , Antigone says no to Creon because she differentiate beteen just and unjust laws. Antigone decided to fight for justice

Page 24 line 407-420

CREON:

But Eteocles—was he not your brother too?

ANTIGONE:

My brother too.

CREON:

And you insult his memory?

ANTIGONE: [Softly.]

The dead man would not say that I insult it.

CREON:

He would: for you honor a traitor as much as him. 410

ANTIGONE:

His own brother, traitor or not, and equal in blood.

CREON:

He made war on his country. Eteocles defended it.

ANTIGONE:

Nevertheless, there are honors due all the dead.

CREON:

But not the same for the wicked as for the just.

ANTIGONE:

Ah Creon, Creon,

Which of us can say what the gods hold wicked?

CREON:

An enemy is an enemy, even dead.

ANTIGONE:

It is may nature to join in love, not hate.

CREON: {Finally losing patience.]

Go join them, then; if you must have your love,

Find it in hell!

Creon said that her brother was a traitor , therefore , she became a traitor and she had to be punished , but Antigone insists that all people deserve burial . This is the duty we owe the dead ., regardless of their religion .political views or their history when they were alive . On the

hand , her uncle insists on defending the state because she believes that she is a future rebel and he wants to put an end to any future rebellion .

Is Antigone a martyr or a criminal?

When we look at her actions , she would appear as a civil resister and martyr .She died for her love and loyalty to her brother . Her duty is fulfill the divine law . She was aware of the results of her actions. But according to Creon 's viewpoint , she is a criminal because she breaks the law and she wants to cause a disorder in the city and Creon has to defend it.

Page 8-9 line 67-72

ISMENE:

But no one must hear of this, you must tell no one!

I will keep it a secret, I promise!

ANTIGONE:

Oh tell it! Tell everyone

Think how they'll hate you when it all comes out 70

If they learn that you knew about it all the time!

This shows that Antigone did not act in secret . She acted in public because she wanted everyone to see. This is an example of civil disobedience . It shows that Antigone is a rebellious from the beginning of the play unlike her sister who was silent and submissive

Move to page 38 line 695

ANTIGONE:

[Antistrophe 2]

You have touched it at last: that bridal bed

Unspeakable, horror of son an mother mingling: 695

Their crime, infection of all our family!

O Oedipus, father and brother!

Your marriage strikes from the grave to murder mine.

I have been a stranger here in my own land:

All my life

The blasphemy of my birth has followed me.

Now Antigone realized that the marriage of her father and mother was a crime which infected her and her family . She blames Oedipus for his action . She thinks that she has been a stranger and a sin follows her for all her life.

Page 39 line 714

ANTIGONE:

O tomb, vaulted bride-bed in eternal rock,

Soon I shall be with my own again 715

Where Persephone 7

welcome the thin ghost underground:

And I shall see my father again, and you, mother,

And dearest Polyneices—

dearest indeed

To me, since it was my hand

That washed him clean and poured the ritual wine:

And my reward is death before my time!

And yet, as men's hearts know, I have done no wrong,

I have not sinned before God. Or if I have,

I shall know the truth in death. But if the guilt

Lies upon Creon who judged me, then, I pray,

May his punishment equal my own.

She is talking about the grave that she is going to be locked in . At this moment of death , she feels disconnected from her lover Hiamon. That is why she describes her vault as a bridal . This is going to be her final marriage . This is her final speech and prayer for gods and this people . Her suicide is her final speech . From this passage , we notice that Antigone is going to die . She expresses the idea that she will reunite with her family and will be denied from burial ; nobody will perform the burial rituals on Antigone once she dies.

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The End