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Antigone Study Guide

Prologue—Scene 2

1. Summarize the prologue.
2. Why does Ismene plead with Antigone not to defy Creon?
3. What order will Creon give about Polyneices’ body?
4. Why is burying her brother so important to Antigone?
5. Why is Creon named King?
6. What is Creon’s argument for why Polyneices should not be buried?
7. What does the Sentry reveal about Polyneices’ body(the first time he comes in)?
8. Why is the Sentry so nervous telling Creon? What does this say about Creon?
9. What does the Sentry reveal the second time he comes in?
10. How has his demeanor changed? Why?
11. What do the following lines reveal about Creon’s character? (From Scene2)

*“This girl is guilty of a double insolence, breaking the given laws and boasting of it. Who is the man here, she or I, if this crime goes unpunished?*

1. What does Creon decide will be done with Antigone?
2. What is the main conflict in Antigone?
3. In Antigone’s struggle against Creon, what values or cultural traditions does each character represent?

**Scenes 3-5**

1. In lines 28-29, what does Creon’s character flaw reveal?
2. What is Haimon’s argument to Creon? Try to name it in one word.
3. In Scene 3, what does Haimon mean when he says, “Then she must die.—But her death will cause another.” What is he foreshadowing?
4. How does Creon respond to Haimon’s arguments?
5. What punishment does Creon place on Antigone?
6. In lines 45-48, which does the chorus say is responsible for Antigone’s doom—fate or her own choices?
7. Why does Antigone believe she is not guilty of a crime?
8. In Scene 5, what does Teirsias say will happen to Creon?
9. In the Paean, from whom does the chorus ask for help?
10. What happens to Antigone and Haimon?
11. What has happened to Eurydice?
12. Who is/are the tragic character(s)? What is his/her tragic flaw?
13. Who is/are the tragic character(s)? What is his/her tragic flaw?