

Shepard Academy

English 10H

*Oedipus Res*

First Episode and 2nd Choral Ode

**First Episode pp. 272-281**

1. What is ironic about Oedipus' claim that he is "a stranger to the story" (line 248)?

2. What penalties does Oedipus decree on the guilty party?

3. What is ironic about Oedipus' statement "So I will fight for him as if he were my

father" (line 301-302)?

4. According to the chorus, what divine being knows the truth about who the killer is?

5. According to the chorus, who might be able to help discover the murderer's identity?

6. What are the rumors surrounding the murder/murderer?

7. What curse does Oedipus put on the killer or killers of Laius?

8. Why does Oedipus send for Tiresias?

9. How does Oedipus treat Tiresias at first?

10. What does Tiresias know?

11. How does Oedipus react?

12. What accusation does Oedipus hurl at Tiresias?

13. What is Tiresias response?

14. As the conversation continues, what happens to Oedipus' composure?

15. Explain Tiresias statement: "flinging at me the very insults each man here will fling

at you so soon." (lines 424-425)

16. Whom does Tiresias name as the murderer of Laius?

17. Whom does Oedipus now accuse? What is his reasoning?

18. What seems to emerge as one of Oedipus' character flaws?

19. According to Tiresias, what will Oedipus discover today?

20. Why do you think Oedipus is so determined to discover the murderer of Laius?

**Second Choral Ode pp. 282-283**

1. How does the Chorus feel about the possibility of Oedipus' guilt?

2. Where/why might Tiresias (the prophet) be wrong?