

Sophomore Honors Summer Reading Assignment

Works:

Oedipus the King by Sophocles translated by Robert Fagles

Oedipus at Colonus by Sophocles translated by Robert Fagles

Antigone by Sophocles translated by Robert Fagles

Note: these plays can be purchased in a single book *Penguin Classics: The Three Theban Plays* (ISBN: 0140444254), **be sure you have the correct translation.** These plays are presented out of narrative order in the combined text; follow the order written above for the proper narrative chronology.

Welcome to Sophomore Honors English. During the coming year you will continue developing reading skills that will enable you to unlock meaning in both older and modern poetry and prose. To that end I have chosen works that will sharpen your reading skills, provide intellectual stimulation, and add to your ever-increasing literary awareness.

It will be important that you engage in close reading and textual annotation to do well on reading checks during the first week of class. You will be asked questions that require knowledge of plot details, character motivations, conflicts, themes, symbols and tone. *Spark Notes* and other such “study aids” won’t be of much help if you do not read the plays.

You MUST bring copies of all three plays to the first day of class. The plays **MUST** include **IN-DEPTH** annotations (*Highlights/Underlines AND Margin Notes/Sticky Notes*).

These annotations need to include more than just plot summary. They need to include personal interpretations, analysis of literary techniques, and connections to other literary works and/or the real world.

You will receive a grade on the first day of class for your annotations of all three plays. You will also take a test during the first two days of class and write an in-class essay over the plays during the first week of class.

These works will connect to others throughout the year and were selected to prepare you for more in-depth studies of literature.

I very much look forward to getting to know you next year. Have a good summer!

Mr. Lyke
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