

★ Conventions of the Play

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★ Formal Structure

Prologos

- Entire part of an ancient Greek play that precedes the parodos (an ode sung by the chorus at the entrance).



In the beginning...

★ Formal Structure

Episodes

- One series of events throughout the course of the drama.

★ Formal Structure

Exodus

- Final scene or departure



How do you think the final messenger influenced the exodus?

★ DQ 1

Discussion:

- 1) Who?
- 2) Purpose?
- 3) Impact?

“You are right; there is sometimes danger in too much silence” (1324).

★ Use of Peripeteia and Anagnorisis

Peripeteia = turning point or shift in the drama

Page 2088 when the chorus begins speaking

Anagnorisis = “recognition” When a character makes a crucial finding

- Find an example on page 2083

★ Conventions of a play



Use of Chorus- Acts as a narrator for the play, giving info not given from the actors themselves

How does Sophocles use the chorus as a proactive character and how would the story change if he used a different form of narration?

★ DQ 2

- Uses the chorus to ask question to Creon and find out what he's thinking
- Chorus is the one who tells the messenger to go look for

◆ Conventions of a play

Conventional Characters- Stereotypical characters that are usually flat

Messengers used to deliver off stage to the audience

Blind Seer- embodies a contradiction



★ High Status Characters

High on the social ladder, placed in a position of power

In Antigone, status contributes to the pride of Creon and how he handles Antigone's 'crime'



LOSERS

AND

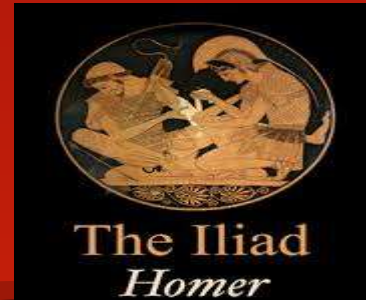
TRAGIC HEROES



★ Conventions of the Tragic Hero

Aristotle's *Poetica*:

- This text is Aristotle's theory on drama, and the general effects of drama on humanity.
- Aristotle used *The Iliad* to prove his points. He believed that the tragic hero can rise, bring down evil forces and assert splendor. Tragedy is an inevitable part of life, how the hero deals with it reveals the individual's ability to ascend to the heights of human potential.



★ Conventions of the Tragic Hero Cont.

- High individual with a noble goal.
- Has hamartia - *the fatal flaw*
- His misfortune is greater than he deserves
- He believes that he is doing the right thing, but his actions lead him into catastrophe. (peripeteia)
- He cannot avoid catastrophe because when he sees the error in his ways, it is too late. (anagnoresis)



MISFORTUNE

WHILE GOOD FORTUNE OFTEN ELUDES YOU,
THIS KIND NEVER MISSES.

★ Conventions of the Tragic Hero Cont.

- Divine Intervention: Often part of Greek theater to propel the plot, and to provide the resolution. This is part of “the hero’s journey.”
- Prophecy: Provides the condition for the tragedy and the setting for it. Human action provides the cause.

What is the role of justice/revenge on the character choices in Antigone, and how does this influence any judgements they make.



★ DQ 3

Creon's tragic flaw: He believes in revenge - the idea that Polyneices must be 'shamed' in death in order to right his wrong - an act that seems directly antithetical to the Chorus' wish to relegate the pain to the past. Creon is thus perpetuating the legacy of Oedipus' curse, and we begin to see that as long as Polyneices remains unburied, the plague on Thebes will continue.

◆ Works Cited

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