

Antigone - Essay Topics

In follow-up to the play, *Antigone*, we will be writing a literary analysis essay. I have some suggested essay topics below. If you have a different topic that you would like to explore, just run it by me first.

Select a topic, and do some brainstorming. Since you will need to support your essay with quotes from the novel, you may also begin selecting passages that are relevant to your essay topic. We will begin pre-writing and organizing next class.

Suggested Essay Topics:

1. Choose one character (major or minor) from the play to analyze in detail. Analyze his/her character traits and actions throughout the play. Consider how this character affects the events of the play and the people around him/her. Also, consider the symbolic significance of the character; is Sophocles using this character's traits and flaws to say something?
2. What importance does Antigone's gender hold in *Antigone*? How does it shape the way other characters view her? What does the play say about a woman's place in society?
3. Look at Antigone, Ismene, Creon, and Haimon, and at what happens to them and their relationships. What is the role of family ties in *Antigone*? Which appears to be more important to Sophocles—family or authority?
4. Creon claims that the rule of the king must be obeyed, even if it's wrong, in order to avoid anarchy and chaos. Does the play agree or disagree with Creon?