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## Creon character traits in oedipus the king

At first glance, Oedipus and Creon are two very different people. But as time progresses their personalities and even their fates grow more and more similar. In Sophocles play Oedipus the King, Oedipus and Creon are two completely opposite people. Oedipus is brash and thoughtless, whilst Creon is wise and prudent. In Oedipus the King, Oedipus effectively portrays the idea of the classic flawed hero. He becomes arrogant and brash. He accuses Creon and Tiresias of treachery. Even worse however, Oedipus goes against the gods. This causes them to punish him severely. Creon is the exact antithesis of Oedipus.He thinks before he acts. Creon is wise and loyal. In Sophocles other play, Antigone, however, he undergoes a drastic personality change. He becomes more and more like Oedipus. Creon commits acts of hubris, kills and humiliates people for no reason whatsoever. Once he realizes the folly of his ways, he punishes himself for going against the gods and destroying all that he loved. This is strikingly similar to the story of Oedipus. At first Oedipus and Creon seem like entirely different people. But through the course of events, they share almost identical personalities and even fates.In Oedipus the King, Oedipus is a brash and arrogant ruler while Creon is his patient, thoughtful right hand man. After Oedipus and his sons all die and Creon becomes king of Thebes, he begins to grow wilder and even more out of control than Oedipus was. In Oedipus the King Oedipus accused Creon of bribing Tiresias, the blind prophet, to make a prediction that will doom Oedipus. He accuses Creon of plotting to kill the king (189). He does this without any concrete evidence or proof. Oedipus rationalizes that because Creon induced him to send for that sanctimonious prophet [Tiresias] (190), he is responsible for the prophecy.Oedipus assumes that if the two of you [Creon and Tiresias] had never put heads together, we would never have heard (192) the prophecy. Creon even calls Oedipus a man is full of crude, mindless stubbornness (190). Oedipus lashed out at Creon for betraying a kinsman (192). He did so without any evidence or proof. He just did accused Creon without thinking about the consequences. Although Creon stands against rashness and unthinking now, he soon becomes another Oedipus. In Antigone, Creon portrays all the character traits that made Oedipus such a bad ruler.Creon proclaims that no person can bury Antigones brother, Polynices. Soon enough however, a guard comes running in to tell him that Polynices has indeed been buried. Creon is furious. He immediately accuses the guard of burying him. You are a born nuisance (75), he says, You squandered your life for money (75). The guard summarizes Creons transformation from patient ruler to brash king when he says Oh its terrible when the one who does the judging judges things all wrong (75). Creon, just like Oedipus, accused the guard of something he didnt do.He lacked proof and he had little evidence, but he proclaimed him to death anyway. Oedipus and Creon are alike in yet another way. They both committed vile acts of hubris. Both of them went against the gods for feckless and pointless reasons. Oedipus committed hubris by insulting Tiresias. He accuses Tiresias of betraying us, destroying Thebes (177). Tiresias is a prophet of the gods. He is just telling Oedipus what he has seen. Tiresiass refusal to tell Oedipus his secrets only results in more name-calling and humiliation. Oedipus calls him the scum of the earth (178).Oedipus is so enraged by his prophecies that he accuses him of helping to hatch the plot (178). Oedipus suspects that Tiresias is being bribed. Who primed you for this? Not your prophets trade (179), he says. Oedipus rashness lead him to accuse Tiresias, a prophet of the gods and a wise seer, that he is corrupt and a fraud. This is obviously insulting to the gods and leads to his downfall. Creon himself commits an even greater act of hubris. He refuses to bury the body of Polynices, the brother of Antigone, who tried to attack Thebes. This is a direct violation of the gods and all their laws of death.When Antigone is confronted by Creon about her illegal burial of Polynices, she claims that it wasnt Zeus, not in the least, who made this proclamation. (82). She adds that The justice, dwelling with the gods beneath the earth [did not] ordain such laws for men (82). Creon has assumed the risky business of saying that he, a mere mortal, could override the gods (82). For this dangerous sin of hubris, Creon is punished severely. Just like Oedipus was. Because of their acts of hubris, Creon and Oedipus are both punished severely. They lose everything they love and all they value.They eventually see the error of their ways, but by the time they do it is already too late. Oedipus finds out that he is the person who killed his father. He discovers that he is married to his mother and that he has had children with her. Once Oedipus finds out these horrific secrets of his life, he cannot bear to look upon another living soul. He rushes into Jocastas bedroom and takes two long gold pins (237). He then digs them down into his sockets (237). This act of self mutilation is Oedipuss punishment. He is turned from an arrogant ruler into a humble blind man in the blink of an eye. This is how the gods punished him.They gave him all the griefs in the world that you can name (237) Creon receives a very similar punishment. He too, loses all he deems valuable in the world. Creon will not allow Haemon to marry Antigone. He condemns their marriage and greatly distresses his son, Haemon. As a result of Creons actions, Haemon commits suicide, his blood spilled by his very hand (120). Eurydice, Creonss wife, also kills herself. She is so wracked with anguish by Haemons suicide, that she stabbed herself at the altar (126). Creon murdered his son and his wife. (127). He has nowhere to lean to for support (127) and no-one to look to (127).The chorus sums up his and Oedipuss fate when they say The mighty words of the proud are paid in full with mighty blows of fate, and at long last those blows will teach us wisdom (128) Creon and Oedipus were obviously very similar people. They both rose through chance and circumstance and they both fell because of their brashness and hubris. Creon started off as a very different person to Oedipus. But once he became king, he immediately became an almost identical person to Oedipus. He was rash, unthinking and uncaring. This resulted in his downfall just as it caused Oedipus.To export a reference to this essay please select a referencing style below:Essay Examples, (March 2019). Oedipus versus Creon. Retrieved from Copied to Clipboard." Oedipus versus Creon." benjaminbarber.org. 03 2019. 08 2021. < .Reference Copied to Clipboard.Essay Examples, March 2019. Oedipus versus Creon. [online]. Available from: [Accessed 24 August 2021]Reference Copied to Clipboard.Essay Examples. Oedipus versus Creon [Internet]. March 2019. [Accessed 24 August 2021]. Available from: Copied to Clipboard. Need Custom Character Analysis Sample With Quotes or Maybe Help With Editing? You Are One Click Away From Getting Your Work Done Order Here Creon Quotes I am determined that never, if I can help it,Shall evil triumph over good." - Creon There is no more deadly peril than disobedience;States are devoured by it, homes laid in ruins,Armies defeated, victory turned to rout.White simple obedience saves the lives of hundredsOf honest folk." - Creon Haemon: No city is property of a single man.Creon: But custom gives possession to the ruler.Haemon: You'd rule a desert beautifully alone. Creon: See that you never side with those who break my orders.Leader: Never. Only a fool could be in love with death. Creon: Death is the price - you're right. But all too often the mere hope of money has ruined many men. Creon: Why not? You and the whole breed of seers are mad for money.Tiresias: And the whole race of tyrants lusts for filthy gain. Money! Money's the curse of man, none greater.That's what wrecks cities, banishes men from homes,Tempts and deludes the most well-meaning soul,Pointing out the way to infamy and shame." - Creon Creon in the Essays Author: Arnold Campbell May 31, 2019 by Essay WriterThroughout the history of literature, authors and playwrights have often employed a foil – a character whose purpose is to create a contrast with the main character that allows the latter’s attributes to cement their presence. Ancient Greek tragedian Sophocles, in his play Oedipus Rex, seamlessly weaves his foil character, Creon, into the tapestry of the intricate plot not only by allowing Creon’s character traits to stand against those of Oedipus, but also by giving him his own magnitude in the events and direction of the play. Though Creon – who is Oedipus’s uncle, brother-in-law, and right-hand man all at once – demonstrates many qualities that provide stark relief against the title character’s, the ones that perhaps form the best grounds for contrast are Creon’s reactions, his piety, and his priorities.One of the most critical elements of the plot’s rising action is the ongoing conflict between Creon and Oedipus, in which the first of their differences truly comes to light. Where Oedipus is portrayed as a frantic, paranoid king, Creon’s mature reactions to Oedipus’s attempts at provocation could not be more different. When Oedipus accuses Creon of “highway robbery of [his] crown” (l. 615), Creon’s only response to such a far-fetched claim is to calmly request an explanation that is just-as-composedly dispelled by him. When Oedipus proceeds with his poorly-founded accusations, which often come dusted with ill-concealed insults, Creon fails to be provoked into any reaction beyond unruffled, logical responses, as demonstrated by his attempt to explain to the king that he would have no motivation to frame him, since he already enjoys all the benefits of a high-ranking position without being weighed down by the burden of its responsibilities. Oedipus, however, refuses to listen to the voice of reason: every following exchange between them stands to further emphasize just how illogical and volatile Oedipus can be.Another key dissimilarity between the two characters is their drastically different views of divinity and their reverence – or lack thereof – of the gods. Creon, who from the very beginning of the play is established as a man of piety, often makes note of the gods in conversation, ever careful to remain within his mortal boundaries. He also mentions that he awaits “to learn from the God [Apollo] the course of action [he] should follow” (l. 1620) before coming to any decisions, thus exhibiting his belief in fate. Oedipus, on the other hand, becomes infamous for his hubris – his pride that is so excessive that he believes himself superior to the gods. In his initial conversation with the prophet Teiresias, Oedipus criticizes the power of the gods and their oracles: “When the dark singer, the sphinx, was in your country, did you speak word of deliverance to its citizens? And yet the riddle’s answer was not the province of a chance comer. It was a prophet’s task and plainly you had no such gift of prophecy from birds nor otherwise from any God to glean a word of knowledge. But I came, Oedipus, who knew nothing, and I stopped her. I solved the riddle by my own wit alone. Mine was no knowledge got from birds.” (l. 455-463)In this extract, Oedipus’s true feelings regarding his rise to power and his general worthiness come to the attention of both the other characters and the audience. Oedipus, simply put, has been blinded by the single success that he had stumbled upon that skyrocketed him to wealth and power. By the end of the play, any remaining belief in the gods he may have had seems to have dissolved away, demonstrated by his self-dug abyss of self-pity.Lastly, there is an unforgoing contrast between the priorities of the two gentlemen in question. One would expect that the king, so well-loved by his people, would instinctively put them first, surpassing the importance of his own needs, but that is far from the truth. When accusations are made against him, Oedipus is quick to discard the crisis of the plague that the people of Thebes are undergoing, and instead moves his own personal developments into the spotlight. Creon, meanwhile, prioritized the needs of Thebes all throughout the play. From the very beginning, when he went himself to fetch the prophet Teiresias to shed light on the suffering of the Thebans, Creon displays his willingness to make personal sacrifices for his people. This note is played to the very end of the play, when Creon easily steps into the role he never desired – that of king – and shoulders the worries of his people right alongside them.Creon, a complex character in his own right, helped enrich audiences’ perception of Oedipus in a way that would have been impossible without his presence. Oedipus’s shortcomings in the fields detailed above may never have been seen so sharply without Creon’s additions. Indeed, the entire play would have been lacking had it not been for his contributions to audiences’ understanding and judgement. In this way, Sophocles’s decision to include the character of Creon as a foil to Oedipus allowed for the text to adopt an unprecedented depth, and for Oedipus’s brash character to be immortalized as the character all literature aficionados love to hate. does creon kill oedipus. what does creon tell oedipus. why is creon important in oedipus. how does creon say to treat oedipus

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