

## Guilt and Innocence Evidence Collection Tool

<b>Name:</b>		<b>Class:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	
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**How does Sophocles develop the conflict between Oedipus’s guilt and his innocence?**

Key Details: Prophecies	Key Details: Actions	Connections	How does this develop your understanding of Oedipus’s responsibility in Laius’s murder?
<p><b>OEDIPUS:</b> what message from the god do you bring us? (line 101) ...Speak out to everyone (line 109).</p> <p><b>CREON:</b> Then let me report what I heard from the god. Lord Phoebus clearly orders us to drive away the polluting stain this land has harboured—which will not be healed if we keep nursing it (lines 112–115) ...Laius was killed. And now the god is clear: those murderers, he tells us, must be punished, whoever they may be (lines 124–126).</p>	<p><b>OEDIPUS:</b> But now I possess the ruling power which Laius held in earlier days. I have his bed and wife lines 301–303) ...So now I will fight on his behalf, as if this matter concerned my father, and I will strive to do everything I can to find him, the man who spilled his blood (lines 308–312).</p>		

	<p><b>JOCASTA:</b> Besides, before our child was three days old, Laius fused his ankles tight together and ordered other men to throw him out on a mountain rock where no one ever goes (lines 862–865).</p> <p><b>MESSENGER:</b> If you must know, [Polybus] received you many years ago as a gift. I gave you to him (lines 1215–1217) ...I found you in Cithaeron’s forest valleys (line 1222) ...I was the one who saved you (line 1227) ...Your ankles had been pierced and tied together. I set them free (lines 1232–1233).</p>		
	<p><b>OEDIPUS:</b> When I heard that I ran away from Corinth...so I would never see that prophecy fulfilled, the abomination of my evil fate. In my travelling I came across that place in which you say</p>		

	<p><b>your king was murdered (lines 955–961) ...I met a herald and a horse-drawn carriage. Inside there was a man like you described (lines 965–966) ...I killed them all (line 977).</b></p> <p><b>But now I possess the ruling power which Laius held in earlier days. I have his bed and wife— (lines 301–303).</b></p>		
<p><b>TEIRESIAS: He will be blind, although he now can see. He will be poor although he now is rich. He will set off for a foreign country, groping the ground before him with a stick. And he will turn out to be the brother of the children in his house— their father, too, both at once, and the husband and the son of the very woman who gave birth to them. He sowed the same womb as his father and murdered him (lines 550–559).</b></p>			

**Claim**