

Read *Oedipus the King*, from “Is this something Creon has devised” through “I do not care, if I have saved the city” (lines 454–535).

1. Of what is Oedipus accusing Teiresias?
2. How does the re-emergence of the story of the Sphinx support your understanding of how Oedipus feels about prophecy?
3. What is the cumulative impact of the word *will* on the meaning Teiresias’s reply? What is the effect of the repetition of *will*?
4. How does Teiresias’s prophecy play into the structural distinction between the *plot* of the play (the actions and events that occur on the stage) and *story* (the totality of actions and events both as they are related and as they occur) that you explored in Lesson 3?
5. How does Teiresias’s reference to time shape your understanding of the structure of this drama?
6. How does Oedipus’s approach to solving the mystery of Laius’s murder compare to how he approached the mystery of the Sphinx?