

Read *Oedipus the King*, from “I will go now. Boy lead me away” through “a troublemaker, an enemy of mine” (lines 536-657).

1. What contradictions does Teiresias construct, or create, in this passage?
2. What effect do these contradictions have on Oedipus? Why might Sophocles choose to reveal key details about the identity of the murderer through contradictions?
3. What words and phrases in the Chorus’s speech can help you to make meaning of *ascertain* (line 600) in this context?
4. How does the Chorus describe Teiresias, the gods, and Oedipus in this speech (cite locations)?
5. How might these descriptions refine your understanding of the relationship between gods, prophets, and men?
6. Whose wisdom does the Chorus consider most valuable?

7. Consider your annotations of the movement of characters on and off the stage. Where is Creon when Oedipus accuses him? What effect is created by his absence?

8. What doubt does the Chorus express about Oedipus's accusation?

9. What does Oedipus do upon entering the stage? How does Creon respond?

10. How does Oedipus's response to Creon refine your understanding of the doubts the Chorus expressed in lines 626–628?