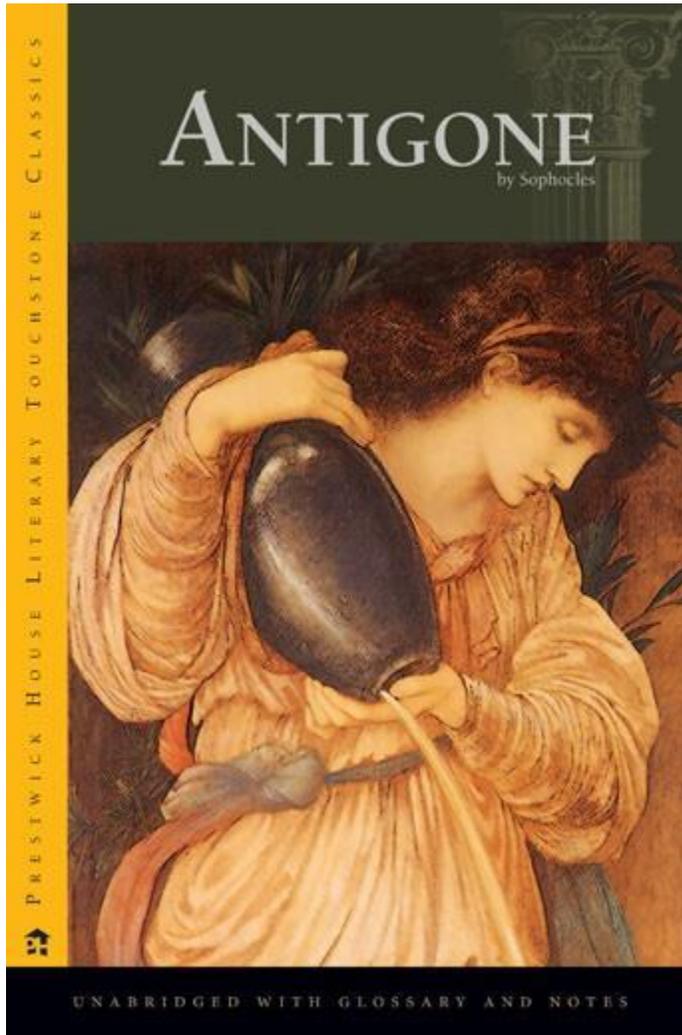


## Current 10<sup>th</sup> – Incoming 11<sup>th</sup> Summer Assignment

Read *Antigone* by Sophocles

(Prestwick House Literary Touchstone Classics, ISBN 978-1-58-049388-8)



You will need to read the **Pointers** and **Setting**, pp. 7 – 9, as well as the **Mythological Background**, the **Essay on Burial**, and the **Overview of Greek Tragedy**, pp. 65 – 70 before you start reading the play on pp. 11 – 62. You will **definitely** need to consult the Glossary, and you may also need to do some of your own research.

Be advised that the play and its analysis, as well as pp. 65 – 70, will certainly be part of a **multi-session class discussion**, and may be quizzed at the beginning of the school year. This class analysis will culminate in a writing task to be announced in September.

To prepare for all that awaits, annotate the text in your book as you read: underline key passages, write notes in the margins, mark sections where you have questions. Focus on plot, conflict, character motivation and characterization, theme development, and style: use of language (both literal and figurative), allusions, motifs, archetypes, *et al.*

Assess the relevance of the work today (you may want to think about how well it has *aged*) and try to look at it from more than one perspective: you can read it as a reader, yes, but also evaluate its impact as member of an audience (you might have a chance to watch it, perhaps?), or as an actor -- or even a director.

Further, you are to answer the following questions to the best of your ability. Your responses to these (in clear, concise Standard Written English -- in **pen**, not typed) **are to be submitted** no later than September 13<sup>th</sup> for assessment:

- 1. (2 - 3 paragraphs)** Antigone's character is said to "demonstrate pre-feminist ethics"; can you explain what this means?
- 2. (1 - 2 paragraphs)** What do you think are the reasons for Haemon's suicide?
- 3. (2 - 3 paragraphs)** Define and elaborate on the concept of a tragic hero. Is Creon a tragic hero, or is it Antigone?
- 4. (1 - 2 paragraphs)** In your view, why does Antigone not allow Ismene to join her in her death sentence?
- 5. (1 - 2 paragraphs)** What is the role of the Chorus in Greek Drama? What does the Chorus represent here?
- 6. (2 - 3 paragraphs)** If you were an actor and were about to be cast as one of the minor characters in this play, which role would you choose, and why?