

# HUBRIS

## Definition of “Hubris”-

*According to Webster’s New World College Dictionary, “hubris” is defined as wanton insolence or **arrogance resulting from excessive pride** or passion.*

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But to the Ancient Greeks, it had other subtle implications for mankind and could be a very slippery slope. In addition to being characterized by arrogance and excessive pride, it could also be identified with:

- A lack of humility or knowing one’s place;
- By egotism or egotistical behavior such as putting oneself on an equal plane with the gods or above the gods;
- By sacrilegious behavior or thought such as speaking badly or dismissingly or taking the gods names in vain;
- Refusing to accept one’s fate or by trying to change one’s fate;

In addition, ignorance was no excuse. One was still guilty if he didn’t know he was breaking the gods’ rules or if one was ignorant that one was offending the gods.



# Anticipation Guide

Directions: With a partner, discuss the following statements. Choose whether you agree or disagree. In the space below each statement, write a 2-3 sentences explaining your reasoning. Keep these opinions in mind as you read *Antigone* and consider whether Sophocles-and various characters in his play-feel the same way you do.

**Agree Strongly-----Agree-----Disagree-----Disagree Strongly**

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. Nothing is worth dying for.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. You should obey the rules; they were made for a reason.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. Do the honorable thing.

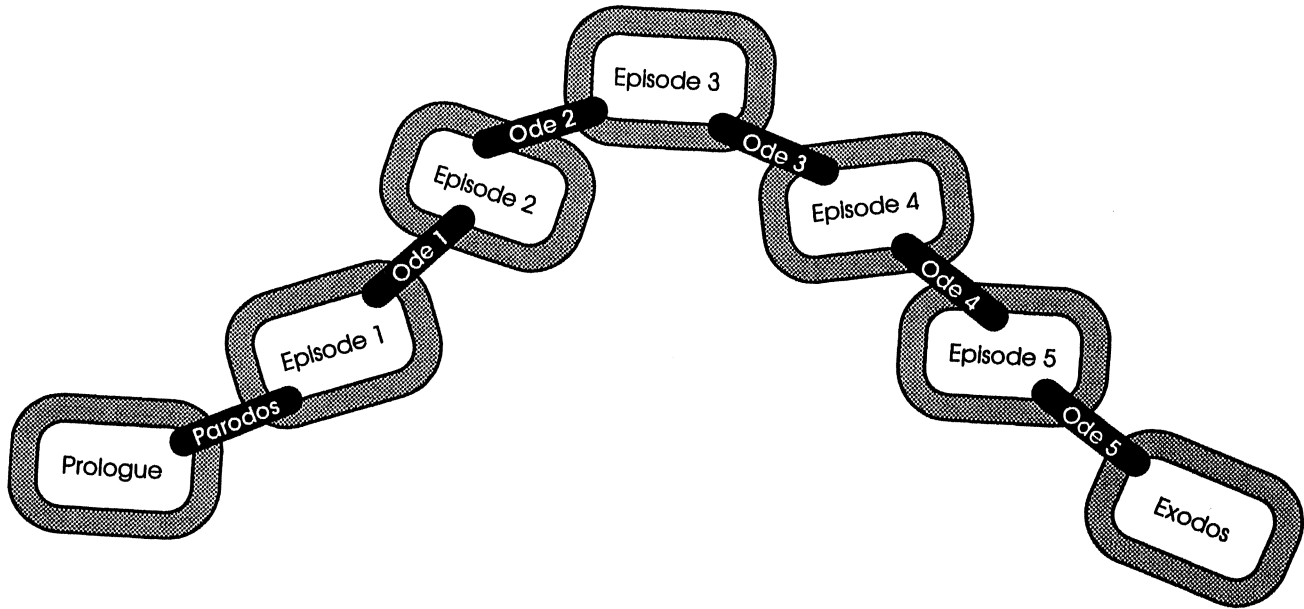
\_\_\_\_\_ 4. In the end, most people get what they deserve.

\_\_\_\_\_ 5. Children end up paying for their parents' mistakes.

\_\_\_\_\_ 6. Those who forget the past are condemned to repeat it.

\_\_\_\_\_ 7. A wife should support her husband's decisions, regardless of whether she agrees.

# The Links That Bind



A Greek tragedy contains the following specific aspects:

- **Prologue:** Describes the situation and sets the scene.
- **Parados:** An ode sung by the Chorus as it makes its entrance.
- **Five dramatic scenes**, each followed by an **ode** from the Chorus
- **Exodus:** The climax and the conclusion.

**Episodes:** List characters and action/conflict

**Odes:** Briefly describe content.

Prologue	Parados
Episode 1	Ode 1

Episode 2	Ode 2
Episode 3	Ode 3
Episode 4	Ode 4
Episode 5	Ode 5
Exodus	Exodus (last lines)



# Kreon

<b>Choice</b>	<b>Motive(s)</b>	<b>Consequence(s)</b>
1. to issue the edict against burial		for self  for others
2. to accuse Teiresias of accepting bribes		for self  for others
3. to give in to the counsels of Teiresias		for self  for others