***Scene 1 last line:*** “…and put an end to the plague”

1. Which characters are onstage during this scene?

2. In the priest’s first long monologue, what does he tell Oedipus? What has been happening in

Thebes?

3. **(research)** Who is Apollo?

4. What answer does Creon bring from Apollo? What are they supposed to do?

5. How did Laius die? Summarize the story Creon tells (be detailed, this is important).

6. What promise does Oedipus make at the close of the scene?

***Scene 2 last line:*** “…without honor among all other gods.”

1. **(research)** Who is Jove? Artemis? Phoebus? Ares? Zeus?

2. SUMMARIZE what the chorus is telling the audience.

***Scene 3 last line:*** “…then say I have no skill in prophecy.”

1. Knowing what you do (that Oedipus is Laius’ son), where is the foreshadowing in Oedipus’ long

speech at the beginning of the scene?

2. **(research**) Who is Tiresias?

3. Why do you think Tiresias will not tell Oedipus what he knows?

4. Whom does Tiresias name as the murderer?

5. Why does Oedipus think they are accusing him?

6. Summarize Tiresias’ speech beginning with “I am going…”

***Scene 4 last line:*** “…judge him guilty of evil action.”

1. Read the lines of the Chorus. Do they support Oedipus or Tiresias? How do you know?

**Scene 5 last line:** “I would not do anything except what pleases you.”

1. Why has Creon arrived at the palace?

2. Toward the close of the argument, what punishment does Oedipus say he wants for Creon?

3. Summarize Jocasta’s version of Laius’ death. What details are new?

4. Why does Oedipus tremble?

5. Summarize Oedipus’ speech beginning with “So you shall…”. What

details coincide with Jocasta’s version of Laius’ death?

***Scene 6 last line:*** “…crazed with fear.”

What does the chorus say about pride? Of which characters do you think they are speaking?

***Scene 7 last line:*** “…the truth about my birth.”

1. Which city is the messenger from?

2. What message does he carry to Oedipus?

3. What was Loxias’ prophecy?

4. Who is the messenger, and what role did he play in Oedipus’ youth?

5. Jocasta begins urging Oedipus to drop it. Why do you think she wants him to leave

it be?

***Scene 8 last line:*** “His companions in sport.”

This interlude of the chorus is very short. What does the Chorus say?

***Scene 9 last line:*** “…an unnatural murderer.”

Summarize the exchange between Oedipus, the messenger, and the old man. What new details emerge?

***Scene 10 last line:*** “And now you have closed my eyed in darkness.”

Why does the chorus “envy not” Oedipus? How has the attitude of the chorus changed from the

beginning of the play?

***Scene 11 last line:*** “…that even his enemies would pity.”

1. What news of Jocasta does the second messenger bring? How and why did it happen?

2. What news of Oedipus does the messenger bring?

***Scene 12 last line:*** “…with you all your long life.”

1. Why does Oedipus say he blinded himself?

2. Does the senator think Oedipus did the right thing? How do you know?

3. What does Oedipus ask Creon to do for him?

4. Which two people has Creon brought to comfort Oedipus?

5. What does Creon’s last line mean?

***Scene 13 last line:*** “…and death without suffering pain.”

Paraphrase (put into your own words) the chorus’ closing speech.