



Curly Questions

Focus Consider how you would respond if you discovered the worst about yourself...

Learning Intention To explore the philosophical ideas and values presented in the text.

Success Criteria By the end of the lesson the students will have engaged with the explicit and implicit ideas presented in a text.

Activity Think-Pair-Share

Have the students consider the following Curly Questions that are raised in Oedipus Rex. Have the students write their individual ideas as notes before beginning to pair with another class member and then share the ideas with the group.

Encourage them to initially contemplate their personal opinions before delving into the perspectives presented within the text. Give them bonus points for using textual evidence in the form of quotes or moments from the text as evidence.

Is guilt heritable? Can the guilt be passed from one generation to the next?

Does crime beget crime?

Can you be guilty of a crime if you are unaware of your crime?

Is free will a reality or an illusion? Can individuals alter their fate or is it predetermined by some divine will?

Is it better to know the worst or is it better to sometimes remain ignorant?

Is it always better to know the truth?

Is hubris an inherent flaw in human nature?

WRITE Have students write a one paragraph response about how they think an audience feels at the conclusion of the play.

READ Read the provided article about 'Guilt and Shame in Oedipus The King' as a model text for discussing ideas and values in text



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