Antigone

Page	Speaker/Context	Quote	Questions/Activities
139	Antigone:	Ismene, my dear sister, whose father was my father, can you think of any of all the evils that stem from Oedipus that Zeus does not bring to pass for us, while we yet live?	
140	Antigone:	Yes, indeed; for those two brothers of ours, in burial fas not Credon honored the one, dishonored the other? Eteocles, they say he has used justly with lawful rites and hid him in the earth to have his honor among the dead men there. But the unhappy corpse of Polyneices has has proclaimed to all the citizens, they say, no man may hide in a grave nor mourn in funeral, but leave unwept, unburied, a dainty treasure for the birds that see him, for their feast's delight. That is what, they say, the worth Creon has proclaimed for you and me -- for me, I tell you and he comes here to clarify to the unknowing his proclamation; he takes it seriously; for whoever breaks the edict, death is prescribed, and death by stoning publicly. There you have it; soon you will show yourself as noble both in your nature and your birth, or yourself as base, although of noble parents.	
140	Ismene: Antigone:	Would you bury him, when it is forbidden the city? At least he is my brother -- and yours, too, though you deny him. I will not prove false to him.	
141	Antigone:	Be as you choose to be; but for myself I myself will bury him. It will be good to die, so doing.	

142	Antigone:	I know I am pleasing those I should please most.	
151	Sentry:	It's a bad thing if one judges and judges wrongly.	
158	Antigone: Creon: Antigone: Creon: Antigone: Creon: Antigone:	It was his brother, not his slave, that died. He died destroying the country the other defended. The god of death demands these rites for both. But the good man does not seek an equal share only, with the bad. Who knows if in that other world this is true piety? My enemy is still my enemy, even in death. My nature is to join in love, not hate.	
160	Antigone: Ismene: Antigone:	Life was your choice, and death was mine. You cannot say I accepted that choice in silence. You were right in the eyes of one party, I in the other.	
161	Chorus:	No generation frees another, some god strikes them down; there is no deliverance.	
163	Creon:	The man the city sets up in authority must be obeyed in small things and in just but also their opposites.	
165	Haemon:	Do not bear this single habit of minds, to think that what you say and nothing else is true. A man who thinks that he alone is right, or what he says, or what he is himself, unique, such men, when opened up, are seen to be quite empty. For a man, though he be wise, it is no shame to learn -- learn many things, and not maintain his views too rigidly.	

166	Haemon:	There is no reverence in trampling on God's honor.	
167	Haemon:	You want to talk but never to hear and listen.	
170	Antigone:	Pity me. Neither among the living nor the dead do I have a home in common -- neither with the living nor the dead.	
171	Antigone:	For when you died, with my own hands I washed and dressed you all, and poured the lustral offering on your graves.	
172	Antigone:	What law of God have I broken? Why should I still look to the gods in my misery? Whom should I summon as ally? For indeed because of piety I was called impious.	
175-6	Teiresias:	All men can make mistakes; but, once mistaken, a man is no longer stupid nor accursed who, having fallen on ill, tires to cure that ill, not taking a fine undeviating stand. It is obstinacy that convicts of folly.	
176	Creon:	Old man, you are all archers, and I am your mark.	
177	Tiresias:	You will force me to declare what should be hidden in my own heart.	
179	Creon:	I know, I know. My mind is all bewildered. To yield is terrible. But by opposition to destroy my very being with a self-destructive curse must also be reckoned in what is terrible.	
186	Creon:	It was I that killed her. Poor wretch that I am, I say it is true! Servants, lead me away, quickly, quickly. I am no more a live man than one dead.	

187	Creon:	O, let it come, let it come, that best of fates that waits on my last day. Surely best fate of all. Let it come, let it come! That I may never see one more day's light!	
187	Chorus:	Wisdom is far the chief element in happiness and, secondly, no irreverence towards the gods. But great words of haughty men exact in retribution blows as great and in old age teach wisdom.	