

Haemon's goal in his speech is to influence his father, Creon, to let Antigone be free. Haemon want Antigone to be free because that is his fiance but that doesn't matter to Creon. Even though its does not work out for Haemon because his father ends up punishing him for arguing with him. The author, Sophocles, use many literary devices in the speech that leads to Haemon having a very persuasive speech. There are many little details that if you notice are very impressive to the way Sophocles wrote this. In Haemon's speech the main thing he does to influence him his to praise his father. Then Haemon in a nice way indirectly ask to let Antigone be free. The last way he tries to influence him is Sophocles' use of literary devices.

Haemon's strategy to influence Creon to not kill Antigone is to praise. If you want to be heard or you want something for someone you tend to be nice to them like the phrase "kissing up to someone". That is what Haemon does. Haemon is trying to protect Antigone but in order to do that he has to get on the good side of Creon. If Creon respects Haemon for being nice then he has a better chance of Creon listening to what he has to say. Sophocles writes "I would not dream of criticizing yours or saying you were wrong, even if I could." Haemon is saying in this quote that he would never ever disagree with Creon. Haemon goes on to say "You know, my father, how I prize your well being and your name" Haemon is saying how he cherishes and respects his father and his title as king. Sophocles uses many phrases that show how Haemon praises Creon. For example Haemon says "I beg you father" and calls him a "wise man." Sophocles does well job writing this speech and putting in words, phrases and sentences that show Haemon praising his father.

In Haemon's speech you often see Haemon tells Creon to not kill Antigone without say it from himself. It is a very good strategy that he uses because then if Creon get upsets then Haemon can say that these aren't my words. Haemon tends to say that the people are talking about Creon. Haemon goes on the fence in this situation because he wants to defend Antigone but he doesn't want to disrespect his father. Haemon says "But I from the shadows hear them: hear a city's sympathy for this girl, because no woman ever faced so unreasonable, so cruel a death, for such a generous cause." Haemon is saying that the city feels sorry for Antigone because she was just respecting her brother. But Haemon was smart because that sentence is what he wants to say but says that he heard that from the city.

Sophocles writes a well written speech for Haemon because he uses metaphors to almost tease Creon. The reason I say Haemon teases Creon because he tricks him by using metaphors. Haemon tells Creon to be wise and a good king and to spare Antigone. Sophocles uses many metaphors. For example "see the trees in floodtime, how they bend along the torrent's course, and how their twigs and branches do not snap, but stubborn trees are torn up roots and all." Sophocles compares Creon to a tree and the situation of Antigone to a storm. Haemon tells that he has to handle the situation by flowing with it and not being stubborn and going against. Sophocles uses another metaphor similar to the other and compares Creon to a captain of a ship in a storm.

Haemon's speech to Creon is a very important part of this play. This makes the play interesting because of the way Sophocles writes an argumentative speech but yet persuasive also. Sophocles makes Hameon, be very respectful to his father, not tell his Creon that he is wrong himself, and use metaphors to tell Creon free Antigone. For a writer that lived over 2000

years ago it is still a great piece of literature, especially Haemon's speech.