Irony: oedipus, the king assignment

Art & Culture



The expression of one's meaning by using language that normally signifies the opposite, typically for humorous or emphatic effect. Oedipus, the King is a story full of dramatic irony. The irony gives the plot a well rounded shape but also helps the readers, or audience follow the story much better. It makes for an extremely interesting read. Oedipus from the start is doomed for failure, but what makes this story so "interesting" to the reader's or audience is that they know things that are going to happen, before the characters do.

There are so many foreshadowing in this book it's almost humorous. The first one to be examined is Oedipus and his brother-in-law, or uncle, Screen's relationship. From the start Oedipus and Croon never saw eye to eye on issues that came their way. Early in the story Oedipus charges Croon and Terrifies with treason. Oedipus' blindness hinders him from seeing that Croon and Terrifies are merely trying to help him.

Oedipus thinks that Croon is trying to take over and become the king, but in all reality Croon does not want to be king at all. At the beginning of scene 2, Croon addresses the people of Thebes with the accusation that Oedipus has made towards him, but that he means no ill will toward Oedipus. After Croon shares his heart about his lack of interest in taking over Oedipus' position as king, Oedipus blinds himself and Croon naturally takes the throne.