

Antigone Character Analysis

Who is the tragic hero?

Choose between Creon and Antigone as the tragic hero of *Antigone*. Then, decide which of the following five of seven characteristics of a tragic hero fit the character you've chosen. Provide one piece of evidence for each characteristic.

- 1) The character has a personality trait, called **hamartia**, or tragic flaw, that leads to his/her downfall. Often this flaw is **hubris**, or excessive pride.
- 2) The character is doomed to make an error in judgement.
- 3) The character should be neither good nor bad, but the audience should be able to identify with the character. The audience must feel pity and fear for this character.
- 4) The character is responsible for his/her own fate.
- 5) The character will fall from great heights or esteem when s/he realizes s/he has made an irreversible mistake. This is referred to as **Peripeteia**, a reversal of fortune brought about by the hero's tragic flaw.
- 6) The character's actions result in an increase of self-awareness and self-knowledge.
- 7) The character will face a tragic death, or massive downfall, with honor.