

English 126 Drama Essay Questions

Directions:

Keep in mind that a “journal” is not synonymous with a “diary.” I am looking for detailed answers in a structured, well thought out form. All work must be free of grammar, punctuation, mechanical, and spelling errors. Textual evidence for some of your answers -- and therefore parenthetical and a works cited page – will be required as needed. **Further, I strongly recommend that you re-type the question, and identify the subsections where appropriate. Finally, your journals must be typed and conform to basic MLA format.**

Your journal will be graded based upon the following criteria:

30% of your grade will be based upon organization;

70% of your grade will be based upon interpretation and the development of such.

To break this down into more tangible terms, questions 1-5 are worth 30 points each; question #6 is worth 100 points. 9 points will go toward organization and the remaining 21 points toward development.

	Mastering (9 pts.)	Developing (8 pts.)	Emerging (7 pts.)
Organization 9 pts.	Both the topic sentence and the key ideas have all the necessary information and the answer flows.	The topic sentence is missing information.	Both the topic sentence and the key ideas are missing information.
	Mastering (21-18 pts)	Developing (17-16 pts)	Emerging (15-14 pts)
Development 21 pts.	Identified critical thought beyond class discussion and proved it in sups.	Either didn't develop beyond class discussion or didn't prove it.	Both occurred.

Sophocles'
Antigonê

1. Describe the central problem of the play. How does Sophocles characterize Creon and Antigonê? Consider their speeches, actions, and gestures. (30 pts)
 2. What is Haimon's role in the play? What does Haimon's dialogue with his father reveal about the two characters? (30 pts)
 3. What do Ismenê and Euridycê contribute to the play? How would *Antigonê* differ if either or both were absent? (30 pts)
 4. What is the chorus's role? Single out two important comments made by the chorus and explain their significance. (30 pts)
 5. Whose values does the play finally seem to endorse? Antigonê's? Creon's? Both? Neither? Explain. (30 pts)
 6. Write a paragraph analyzing the play using a literary criticism. Reader Response *isn't* an option. (100 pts)
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Glaspell's
Trifles

1. Explain the significance of the title. (30 pts)
2. How does this play portray the gender roles of that society? How do the characters' careers re-enforce the gender and personality boundaries? (30 pts)
3. What is Glaspell ultimately saying about gender and their perspectives through these characters? (30 pts)
4. Analyze the symbolic meanings of five primary stage props and how do each advance the play's central theme? (30 pts)
5. Explain the significance of the final line of dialogue. (30 pts)
6. Write a paragraph analyzing the play using a literary criticism. Reader Response *isn't* an option. (100 pts)