Jonathan Quang

HW #8

Dr.Mandler Period 8

Write down the lines and phrases containing seeing, sight, and blindness

Lines 69-71: Oedipus: My children, I pity you. I see - how could I fail to see what longings bring you here?

Lines 96: Oedipus: We'll soon see. He's close enough to hear-

Lines 115-116: Oedipus: I know- or so I've heard. I never saw the man myself.

Lines 134-136: Creon: He escaped terrified, he could tell us nothing clearly, nothing of what he saw-just one thing"

Lines 153-155: Oedipus: Now you have me to fight for you, you'll see: I am the land's avenger by all rights, and Apollo's champion too.

Lines 344-345: Oedipus: Blind as you (Tiresias), you can feel all the more what sickness haunts our city.

Lines 421-425: Oedipus: It does but not for you, old man. You've lost your power, stone-blind, stone-deaf - senses, eyes blind as stone!

Lines 425-429: Oedipus: Blind, lost in the night, endless night that nursed you! You can't hurt me or anyone else who sees the light-you can never touch me.

There are so many lines that feature variations of the word seeing, sight, and blindness because it is a reference to how Oedipus the king eventually becomes Oedipus, the blind man by the end of the play. Some of these lines are examples of dramatic irony. Throughout the beginning of the play. Oedipus says words regarding various signs of sight. When Oedipus uses variations of the word, "see," he seems to be talking about the sight of his thinking and political standing, such as in lines 69-71 and 153-155. Lines 153-155 are particularly ironic in that Oedipus states that he will make someone see that he is the ruler or the best, but he ends up becoming a lowly blind man by the end of the play. In addition, Creon is the character with one of the few lines regarding sight that does not belong to Oedipus. Creon told Oedipus that the survivor of the attack did see one thing among the things he did not. That one thing would have been Oedipus who realizes he killed Laius's (his biological father's) party in self defense. All these references to sight in the beginning, followed up by the prophecy becoming true, is dramatic irony for when Oedipus gouges his own eyes out at the end.