

OEDIPUS THE KING

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What is the story of Oedipus the King? Oedipus, in Greek mythology, the king of Thebes who unwittingly killed his father and married his mother. Homer related that Oedipus's wife and mother hanged herself when the truth of their relationship became known, though Oedipus apparently continued to rule at Thebes until his death.

What is the main idea of Oedipus the King? Fate versus free will is the central theme of the play. The story revolves around Oedipus' attempt to use his own free will to escape the prophecy given to him by the Oracle of Delphi. The oracle prophesied that Oedipus' fate was to marry his mother and kill his father.

Why did Oedipus marry his mother? Oedipus went to the same oracle in Delphi that his birth parents had consulted. The oracle informed him that he was destined to murder his father and marry his mother. In an attempt to avoid such a fate, he decided not to return home to Corinth, but to travel to Thebes, which was closer to Delphi.

How does Oedipus the King end? At the end of the play, after the truth finally comes to light, Jocasta hangs herself while Oedipus, horrified at his patricide and incest, proceeds to gouge out his own eyes in despair. In his Poetics, Aristotle refers several times to the play in order to exemplify aspects of the genre.

What is the moral of Oedipus the King? Quick answer: The moral of Oedipus Rex is that one cannot control one's own destiny and that pride leads to downfall.

Why does Oedipus blind himself? Oedipus blinds himself after learning that he inadvertently murdered his father and slept with his mother. He is so appalled by this revelation that he feels the need to physically punish himself. He blinds himself

because he cannot handle the truth of his actions.

What does Oedipus teach us? Oedipus teaches us that we are not always blameless and that truly fixing the situation may require facing hard truths about ourselves.

What is Oedipus' tragic flaw? In the case of Oedipus, his tragic flaw is hubris, or excessive pride. In thinking that he could outrun his own fate, he inevitably causes it to happen. In ancient Greek culture one would have to suffer from extreme pride to think they could defy the will of the gods. Oedipus's pride is exacerbated by his temper.

What happens to Oedipus after he blinded himself? Oedipus, in disgrace, left his country, and, as a blind beggar, wandered in the countryside. Oedipus was the unhappiest man who ever was. He lived in suffering to an old age, accompanied by his daughter Antigone, until the gods, pitying his pain, whisked him off the face of the earth at a sacred place near Athens.

Did Oedipus know he slept with his mother? Jocasta becomes convinced that Oedipus murdered Laius. Oedipus brings in the herdsman who rescued him as a child. Oedipus squeezes the information out of the herdsman and realizes that he is the son of Laius and Jocasta, killed his father (Laius) and slept with his mother (Jocasta).

Did Oedipus mom know he was her son? Oedipus asks about his mother, since there's that other part of the prophecy, and the Messenger tells him he was adopted. Jocasta realizes the truth—that Oedipus is her son as well as her husband—and tells Oedipus to stop the interrogations.

What did Jocasta do to Oedipus as a baby? Jocasta handed the newborn infant over to Laius. Jocasta or Laius pierced and pinned the infant's ankles together. Laius instructed his chief shepherd, Menoetes (not to be confused with Menoetes, the underworld spirit) a slave who had been born in the palace, to expose the infant on Cithaeron and leave it to die.

How does Oedipus realize he killed his father? Only when Oedipus threatens violence does the shepherd reveal that long ago he disobeyed his orders and saved

the baby out of pity. And, finally, he admits that the baby was the son of Laius and Jocasta. With this news, Oedipus realizes that he has murdered his father and married his mother.

Why did Apollo curse Oedipus? Oedipus' hubris was accepted by his citizens, as a result, Apollo had cursed them for they had been influenced by the insolence he had towards the gods. Oedipus was also the source of the pestilence that his polis had fallen ill to, he had believed that if he were exiled that they would be cured.

How many children did Oedipus and Jocasta have? Oedipus is received at Thebes as a national hero, and invited to marry the recently widowed queen Jocasta. Oedipus and Jocasta have four children: Eteocles and Polyneices, Antigone and Ismene.

Why did Tiresias become a woman? Hera, Zeus' wife, turned Tiresias into a woman because he hit two snakes in the throes of passion. Hera eventually turns him back into a man when, seven years later, he comes upon two snakes again and chooses not to strike them.

What crimes did Oedipus commit? On the surface, Oedipus committed the crimes of murder and patricide and incest, although he did not know he was doing it at the time. On a deeper level, though, Oedipus committed the crime of pride.

When Jocasta discovers what she has done, she? When Jocasta learns of this, she is so consumed by shame and guilt that she takes her own life. Oedipus blinds himself so that he cannot look upon what he has done. The play concludes as Oedipus submits to Creon's leadership and awaits his fate.

Why does Oedipus put his eyes out when he realizes the truth? In order to escape the horrors he has committed, Oedipus gouges out his eyes with Jocasta's pins. This action demonstrates his knowledge of the truth, mirroring the knowledge of the blind prophet Tiresias. Oedipus's eyes themselves symbolize ignorance when Oedipus has sight and knowledge when he becomes blind.

What curse did Oedipus place on his sons? Outraged by both his unfaithful sons, Oedipus condemns them to die in battle by each other's hand. The blind king extends his powerful arms to curse them, while Polynices recoils as if struck a

painful blow. Standing between her father and brother, Antigone, Oedipus's loyal daughter (and sister) seeks reconciliation.

How was Laius killed? He set out for Thebes and on the road encountered King Laius. The pair got into a quarrel over the right-of-way which quickly escalated. Ignorant of his true ancestry, Oedipus killed his own father, slaying him with his sword.

Is Oedipus a hero or villain? Though the story of Oedipus had existed before the play, Sophocles is the one who immortalized Oedipus as a tragic hero with his portrayal in Oedipus Rex. Sophocles focused on Oedipus as a great man who was brought down by fate and an inadvertent bad decision, engendering sympathy in the audience as we watch.

What truth does Oedipus ultimately learn? Sophocles' tragic play, Oedipus the King, depicts a spectacular deterioration of its titular protagonist as he realises the truth of his own past: that he has killed his own father, and committed incest with his mother.

What is the paradox in Oedipus the King? At the heart of Oedipus Rex is a paradox: a leader must figure out what is destroying his city, but will destroy himself by doing so. The very traits that made him an effective ruler will ruin him.

What does Jocasta do when she finds out the truth? Jocasta now realizes that Oedipus is the baby she and Laius abandoned, and that the prophecy has come true. She begs Oedipus to stop his inquiry, but he refuses, and she runs into the palace screaming. This scene turns on multiple ironies as Oedipus draws closer to the revelation of his birth.

What does Jocasta attempt to prove to Oedipus? Oedipus explains to Jocasta how Tiresias condemned him, and Jocasta responds that all prophets are false. As proof, she offers the fact that the Delphic oracle told Laius he would be murdered by his son, while actually his son was cast out of Thebes as a baby and Laius was murdered by a band of thieves.

What was the riddle the sphinx asked Oedipus and what was his answer? She has sent a plague over the land, and to lift the plague, the hero has to answer the

riddle that she presents: "What is it that walks on four legs, then on two legs, and then on three?" The answer is "Man." The child creeps about on four legs, the adult walks on two, and the aged walk with a cane.

The Matchmaker: A Script by Thornton Wilder

Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning play, "The Matchmaker," is a witty and charming comedy of errors that explores the complexities of love and matchmaking. The play's script is a masterpiece of American theater, showcasing Wilder's signature blend of humor, pathos, and social commentary.

1. What is the Play About?

"The Matchmaker" follows the story of Dolly Gallagher Levi, a widowed matchmaker who arrives in Yonkers, New York, to arrange a marriage for Horace Vandergelder, a wealthy but pompous merchant. As Dolly sets out on her mission, she finds her plans complicated by a cast of quirky characters, including a young artist named Barnaby Tucker, a cunning widow named Irene Molloy, and a mischievous cook named Minnie Fay.

2. What are the Major Themes of the Play?

The play explores several themes, including the power of love, the importance of family, and the absurdity of human nature. Through the character of Dolly, Wilder questions the societal conventions surrounding marriage and challenges the idea that love must always be based on practicality.

3. Who Are the Main Characters?

Dolly Gallagher Levi: A widowed matchmaker who is determined to find a suitable wife for Horace Vandergelder but ends up falling in love with him herself. **Horace Vandergelder:** A wealthy but arrogant merchant who is initially resistant to Dolly's matchmaking but eventually comes to appreciate her wisdom and wit. **Barnaby Tucker:** A young artist who falls in love with Vandergelder's niece, Ermengarde. **Irene Molloy:** A cunning widow who tries to win Vandergelder's hand in marriage for her own financial gain. **Minnie Fay:** Vandergelder's mischievous cook who helps Dolly navigate the complexities of his household.

4. What is the Script Like?

Wilder's script is known for its clever dialogue, witty repartee, and fast-paced plot. The play is written in a timeless style that incorporates both humor and drama. The characters are well-developed and relatable, with each having their own unique motivations and goals.

5. Where Can You Find the Script?

The script for "The Matchmaker" is widely available in print and online. It can be purchased from bookstores, online retailers, and theatrical supply companies. The play is also frequently performed by theater companies around the world, offering audiences the opportunity to experience Wilder's witty masterpiece firsthand.

The Basic Oxford Picture Dictionary 2nd Edition: A Comprehensive Visual Resource

1. What is the Basic Oxford Picture Dictionary 2nd Edition?

The Basic Oxford Picture Dictionary 2nd Edition is a comprehensive visual dictionary designed as a foundational resource for learners of English. It employs a picture-based approach to vocabulary acquisition, making it accessible to individuals from diverse language backgrounds.

2. How many illustrations and definitions does it contain?

The dictionary boasts over 4,000 illustrations and definitions covering a wide range of topics, including everyday objects, actions, and concepts. The illustrations are detailed and accurate, providing visual cues to enhance comprehension.

3. What are the key features of this dictionary?

- Clear and concise definitions written in simple English
- Thematic organization for easy navigation
- Index and cross-references for quick reference
- Audio pronunciations for all words to support pronunciation development

4. Who is the target audience for this dictionary?

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The Basic Oxford Picture Dictionary 2nd Edition is ideal for:

- Beginners and intermediate learners of English
- English learners with limited literacy skills
- Students preparing for English language tests
- Teachers and parents looking to support language learning

5. Where can I find the Basic Oxford Picture Dictionary 2nd Edition?

The dictionary is available in print and online formats. You can purchase it from bookstores, online retailers, and Oxford University Press directly. The online version offers additional interactive features such as quizzes and exercises to reinforce learning.

The Layman's Guide to Trading Stocks by Dave Landry: A Q&A

1. What is stock trading?

Stock trading involves buying and selling shares of publicly traded companies on exchanges like the New York Stock Exchange. By acquiring shares, investors gain ownership in the company and have the potential to profit from its growth and earnings.

2. Who can trade stocks?

Anyone with a brokerage account can trade stocks. It is recommended for beginners to start with small investments and gradually increase their exposure as they gain experience.

3. How do I trade stocks?

To trade stocks, you need to open a brokerage account with a reputable firm. Once you have an account, you can use their trading platform to buy and sell shares. It is important to research the stocks you want to invest in and make informed decisions.

4. What are the risks of stock trading?

Stock trading carries inherent risks, including market volatility, which can lead to fluctuations in stock prices. Investors can also lose their entire investment if the company's performance declines or it goes bankrupt.

5. What strategies can I use for stock trading?

There are various stock trading strategies, such as day trading, swing trading, and investing for the long term. Each strategy has its own set of risks and rewards, and investors should choose the one that aligns with their goals and risk tolerance.

Additional Tips for Beginners:

- Educate yourself before trading by reading books, articles, and online resources.
- Practice trading with a paper trading account to gain experience without risking real money.
- Start small and gradually increase your exposure as you become more comfortable with the market.
- Diversify your portfolio by investing in different stocks or industries to mitigate risk.
- Seek guidance from a financial advisor if needed for personalized advice and support.

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