Antigone

Directions: Write a response to the scenario below:

You are a citizen of Thebes, and you have been summoned to the palace to meet with Creon and Antigone. Both defend rights that they believe are sacred. Describe each person’s position. What advice would you give them? Is there room for compromise? Ultimately, whose side do you take?

Guidelines

1. It is understood that you will take on the persona of someone in the play and that you will use the pronoun “I.”
2. “Suspend” your “disbelief” for the purpose of your response in the same way you do for a fantastic movie, book, or drama storyline.
3. Push yourself to imagine how carefully or not you must handle Creon and Antigone. Briefly consider what cultural norms, regional, religious, political, and historical influences that might affect their acceptance of your 21st century perspective.
4. Use summary, paraphrase, and quotations as needed (no more than 20% of paper).
5. Remember, your goal is to offer each convincing moral reasoning.

RRW—re-read pages 36-37 to learn the elements of writing a response paper.
Definitions have been copied (with some editing) from our textbook:

1. **Verbal irony** is created when words say one thing but mean another, often exactly the opposite. In drama it is often a contradiction between what a character says and what he or she means.

2. **Situational irony** occurs when the situation contradicts readers’ expectations.

3. **Dramatic irony** occurs when the audience knows something that a character or characters have not yet realized, or when one or more characters know something that other characters do not know. Typically, dramatic irony is revealed when a character says something that gives the audience information that other characters offstage, at the time, do not know.

**MLA Guidelines for Presenting and Citing Dialogue**

When citing plays, indicate who’s speaking before presenting the dialogue, and give the act, scene, and page number at the end of the reference (act 2, scene 1, 1504). If presenting dialogue of more than one person, present it in a block:

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SHE. I saw everything. Everything. . . . The hospital, for instance, I saw it. I’m sure I did. There is a hospital in Hiroshima. How could I help seeing it?

HE. You did not see the hospital in Hiroshima. You saw nothing in Hiroshima. (act 2, scene 1, 1502)
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*Oedipus* does not have acts, so document thusly: (episode 1, 1474); (antistrophe 1, 1481)
Grading Rubric for Response Paper 1

(A) 6 paper (24-25 points) will

- Provide a clear purpose and strong introduction that contextualizes the assignment
- Express responses directly and honestly
- Use examples, quotes, paraphrase, and details from the work to support/illustrate points
- Follow MLA style
- Meet the word count
- Demonstrate mature sentence variety
- Contain some grammar and usage errors, but not so many as to distract the reader from the meaning

(A-) 6- paper (22-23 points) will

- Perform all of the above tasks although may contain a higher incident of errors in grammar, MLA style, and word count than the 6 paper

(B+ to B-) 5+ to 5- paper (20-21 points) will

- Contain a clear purpose and effective introduction that contextualizes the assignment
- Will identify and evaluate the elements described in a 6 paper but may not be as fully developed as the 6
- Demonstrate mature sentence variety
- Will contain a higher incident of flaws in grammar, MLA style, and word count than the 6- paper

(C+ to C-) 4 paper (18-19 points) will

- Contain an adequate introduction but may fail to contextualize the assignment
- Will identify and evaluate some of the elements but may fail to fully develop the response and may be more inclined to generalities rather than specifics
- Will contain a higher incident of flaws in grammar MLA style, and word count than the 5 paper

(D) 3 paper (15-17 points) will acknowledge the requirements of the reading response assignment but will be weakened by the following errors:

- Omit a clear purpose, introduction, and/or conclusion
- Be too general or too specific
- Contain unimportant or irrelevant points
- Have flaws in organization/development also resulting in low word count
- Contain flaws in grammar and usage that hinder communication
- Contain multiple MLA style errors