

## Analyzing Arguments in *Antigone*

Step 1: Read the passage below and annotate it.

Creon. Good. That is the way to behave: subordinate  
Everything else, my son, to your father's will.  
This is what a man prays for, that he may get  
Sons attentive and dutiful in his house,  
15 Each one hating his father's enemies,  
Honoring his father's friends. But if his sons  
Fail him, if they turn out unprofitably,  
What has he fathered but trouble for himself  
And amusement for the malicious?

So you are right

20 Not to lose your head over this woman.  
Your pleasure with her would soon grow cold, Haemon,  
And then you'd have a hellcat in bed and elsewhere.  
Let her find her husband in hell!  
Of all the people in this city, only she  
25 Has had contempt for my law and broken it.  
Do you want me to show myself weak before the people?  
Or to break my sworn word? No, and I will not.  
The woman dies.

30 I suppose she'll plead "family ties." Well, let her.  
If I permit my own family to rebel,  
How shall I earn the world's obedience?  
Show me the man who keeps his house in hand,  
He's fit for public authority.

I'll have no dealings  
With lawbreakers, critics of the government:

35 Whoever is chosen to govern should be obeyed—  
Must be obeyed, in all things, great and small,  
Just and unjust! O Haemon,  
The man who knows how to obey, and that man only,  
Knows how to give commands when the time comes.

40 You can depend on him, no matter how fast  
The spears come: he's a good soldier; he'll stick it out.  
Anarchy, anarchy! Show me a greater evil!  
This is why cities tumble and the great houses rain down;  
This is what scatters armies!

45 No, no: good lives are made so by discipline.  
We keep the laws then, and the lawmakers,  
And no woman shall seduce us. If we must lose,  
Let's lose to a man, at least! Is a woman stronger than we?

Step 2: Use your annotation to answer the questions below:

1. Summarize Creon's argument in 1 to 2 sentences.
2. How does Creon establish ethos in his argument?
3. Identify two uses of logos in his argument.
4. Identify two uses of pathos in his argument.
5. Explain how ONE of the ideas you identified in number 3 OR 4 supports Creon's argument.
6. Find an example of each of the following rhetorical devices in his argument:
  - a. parallelism
  - b. rhetorical question
  - c. repetition
7. Explain how ONE of the rhetorical devices you identified in number 6 supports Creon's argument.