

Name: _____ Block: _____

Date: _____

Sophocles' *Oedipus Rex*

"One Twisted Family Tree" Questions

Directions: After reading the article "One Twisted Family Tree," answer the following questions in the space provided.

1. What, if anything, about this story surprises or shocks you? If there is nothing, explain why you are neither surprised nor shocked about this story.
2. What are some questions about this story that are unanswered by the article?
3. What similarities between *Oedipus Rex* and this story are there?

What are the major differences between Valerie's and Oedipus's stories?

4. What is the lesson Valerie wants people to learn by sharing her story?

The Chorus says, at the end of *Oedipus Rex*, that people shouldn't consider themselves lucky until they can look back at their life, from their death bed, and realize that their life was without pain. What would Ms. Spruill say to this? Why?

5. Which story, that of Oedipus or of Valerie, is more inspiring or uplifting to you? Why?