### **Final Interpretation Exercise**

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### **Answer ONE question**



I. "Chance rules our lives"

(Jocasta in Sophocles'Oedipus)

- 1. Analyze Jocasta's attitude, with particular emphasis on its implications concerning Oedipus' life and search for the truth.
- 2. Comment on it from the point of view of:
  - Al-Ghazali or Ibn Rushd
  - Augustine or Dante
  - Plato or Aristotle.
- 3. Be sure to clarify in each case "What" rules our lives.
- 4. Conclude and state your opinion.

- OR II. "What is the function of man?" (Aristotle)
  - 1. Answer the above question (briefly) according to:
    - Plato or Aristotle
    - Al-Ghazali or Ibn Rushd
    - Siduri or Jocasta or Oedipus or Odysseus
    - Augustine or Dante.
  - 2. State the reasons that led to your answer, and the implications or consequences for MAN.
  - 3. Formulate your own ANSWER.

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# OR III: Exile

"...NOTHING IS MORE SWEET IN THE END THAN COUNTRY AND PARENTS EVER"... (Odyssey 1. 34-35; p. 138)

1. Select <u>ONE</u> of Odysseus' "rest places" on his voyage.

Analyze <u>briefly</u> the various possibilities offerd to him there; then compare them <u>critically</u> with the situation in Ithaka.

Does Odysseus' choice conform to the above quotation?

Evaluate briefly his choice (I,e, in his place, would you make the same choice, (why or why not?).





2. In the light of the above quotation, analyze Oedipus' final punishment (Exile) with emphasis on his point of view and the chorus' evaluation.

3. How would Al-Ghazali and Augustine (or Dante) evaluate the above? What is their concept of exile? Justify briefly.

4. Evaluate and state your own opinion.

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# OR IV. <u>HYBRIS</u> (= ARROGANCE)

- 1. Discuss <u>briefly</u> and <u>critically</u> how the CHORUS in OEDIPUS defines this attitude (translated in our text as PRIDE) and what it <u>means</u> and <u>implies</u> concerning man's <u>behaviour</u> and <u>attitudes</u> with particular reference to the relation with the Gods.
- 2. Is there anything similar and <u>comparable</u> in: (a) Gilgamesh <u>OR</u> Odyssey. (b) Augustine <u>OR</u> Dante. (c) Al-Ghazali. Justify your answer on the basis of concrete examples.
- 3. What remedy, cure and/or punishment is applied/recommended in each
- 4. Draw your conclusions concerning the different concepts of man and state clearly your opinion whether man is responsible and/or guilty of "Hybris"

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BEST OF LUCK!

