Sphinx
Oedipus solved its **riddle**.

Reason why the people of Thebes did not seek who **murdered** their former king, **Laius**.

Laius
Oedipus’ **father**

Was murdered at **Phocis** (place where three highways meet)
by **Oedipus**.

Oedipus
Became **king** and married **Jocasta**.

People of Thebes came to him because he **solved** the **riddle** of the **sphinx** and they felt he would be able to end their suffering.

Said that if you knew the murderer or were the murderer come to him and you would not be **killed** only **exiled**.

When Teiresias refused to answer Oedipus at first, Oedipus accused him of being in a plot to **kill** Laius and when the truth is finally revealed, he accuses him of working with **Creon** to help him overthrow Oedipus.

Fled Corinth (where he grew up) because the oracle told him he would **marry his mother & kill his father**.

He was found at Mount **Cithaeron** with his **ankles pinned**.

His name means **swollen foot**.
Teiresias
Knew all along Oedipus was the murderer.
Refused to say who the murderer was to Oedipus in the beginning because he felt it was better that only he knew.
Finally revealed the truth after Oedipus ridicules him.

Creon
Oedipus' Uncle & brother in law
Returned from Apollo's oracle to report that to end the suffering Thebes must either exile or murder/kill the murder of Laius, who is in Thebes.
Was accused of trying to overthrow Oedipus from his thrown
Defense to accusation was he had all the power without the stress.
Oedipus Review

Use "The Story of Oedipus," the text of the play, and your study guide to answer the following review questions in complete sentences.

1. What is the name of the monster who was plaguing the city of Thebes and what did the monster look like? The monster that is accosting Thebes is the Sphinx, who is a winged, monster.

2. Who saved the city from the monster? Oedipus saved the city of Thebes by solving the riddle of the Sphinx.

3. What is wrong with the city of Thebes? In Thebes, there is much death and plagues. Additionally, crops are not growing. "Thebes is tossed on a murdering sea and cannot lift her head from its death surge." (lines 24-25)

4. Who does Oedipus send to the oracle? Oedipus had sent Creon, his brother-in-law, to the oracle to find a solution.

5. Where is the oracle? The oracle is located at Delphi.

6. When this person returns, what does he tell Oedipus is the cause of the current trouble in Thebes? Creon tells Oedipus that Apollo demands to citizens to, "expel an old defilement we are sheltering." (lines 99-100). The murderer of King Laius is still among them.

7. Who has been killed in Thebes? King Laius, the ruler before Oedipus, was killed in Thebes.

8. Who is the actual killer, but does not yet know it? Oedipus, actually killed Laius in a highway brawl.

9. What does Oedipus pledge to do for the city of Thebes? Oedipus pledges to avenge the dead king and find the murderer.

10. How is this an example of dramatic irony? Oedipus' declaration is dramatic irony because the audience knows Oedipus is declaring war and death to himself.