***Antigone* Reading Questions, Scene 1 and Ode 1 (700-705)**

**Answer the questions below. Thorough and thoughtful responses will earn one point.**

**Scene 1:**

1. What is the “Ship of State” that Creon refers to? What are the “recent storms” that threatened it?
2. What kind of ruler is Creon? Explain using a quotation from his monologue.
3. What is the Choragos’ response to Creon’s edict? Why?
4. What does Creon mean when he says, “And death it is; yet money talks, and the wisest/ Have sometimes been known to count a few coins too many” (64-65)?
5. How does the arrival of the Sentry (page 701) defuse the tension of this scene?
6. What does the Sentry report?
7. Who does Creon think is responsible for burying Polyneices? What literary device is this?
8. True feelings sometimes emerge when one is angry. From Creon’s speech in lines 115-141, how do you think he really feels about the elders of Thebes? Include a quotation to support your ideas.
9. What qualities in Creon might Sophocles’ audience have found most godlike? What might the audience have considered to be Creon’s “human defects”?
10. What does Creon threaten to do to the Sentry if “the man” is not found? What does Creon mean when he says, “Do you understand me? / A fortune won is often misfortune”(140-141)?

What law does Creon champion in Scene 1, and who supports his view here? What other view has been expressed in the drama so far, and who expresses it? **(Write two to four sentences)**

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**Ode 1:**

1. Jot down three examples from this ode that prove the following theme: Humanity is the greatest of the world’s wonders, but despite its many conquests, it cannot escape death. (Three Points)

A.

B.

C.

1. According to the last stanza of the ode, why do you think that the Chorus supports Creon?