

Name: _____

Oedipus Rex Masks Project

Due Date: _____

Background Information: Evidence of masks in Ancient Greek drama dates back to around 5th century B.C. Masks were made of organic material (wood, animal or human hair, linen, etc.) and were helmet-shaped, covering the entire face and head. The facial features were exaggerated, maybe because the lack of modern lighting and makeup required actors to be more easily seen and recognizable. And because there were only 2-3 male actors in a single drama but many characters, different masks allowed single actors to play and display many characters and emotions. For example, ancient productions of *Oedipus Rex* had two masks for the character Oedipus—masks for before and after his fall.

Objectives: You will design and create a mask that captures an important memory in your life—all the emotions and or images that arise when you think about that memory. A mask about your first time breaking a bone can look frightening or shocking. Your mask can capture the first time winning an award or competition. You will also write a 1-2 page description of your memory and mask.

Requirements: mask

- The mask must capture a specific memory through artwork on the mask. You are free to illustrate, paint, decorate and doodle on the mask however you want, but all artwork must be appropriate!
- You are free to create a 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional mask. However, remember that I will grade you on how much work you put into designing and creating the mask! In other words, there is a significant difference in quality between a white printer paper mask with pencil illustrations and a papier-mâché mask with feathers, magazine cutouts and paint.

1 to 2 page description of mask

- The writing must discuss the memory that the mask attempts to capture (only appropriate memories!). Write as vividly and descriptively as possible. Show, don't tell, your emotions, feelings and senses during that moment.

The writing must also describe *how* the mask attempts to capture that memory. Why did you choose to decorate the mask the way that you did? What are you trying to convey to your audience?

- 1-2 page typed and double-spaced; 1-inch margins; Times New Roman
- Typed and edited for grammar, spelling, clarity and concision



Grading: Closely read over all the requirements listed below.

100 points total

Mask	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is serious thought and effort put into the mask design and decorations?• Does the mask capture a recognizable memory?• Does the mask capture specific emotions and feelings?	60 points
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Does the writing describe a specific memory? Does the writing capture how the writer felt and remembers the memory?• Is the writing carefully worded? Descriptive? Concise? Edited for spelling, grammar and punctuation errors?• Does the writing follow all formatting requirements?	40 points