

Test over *Oedipus the King* and *The Ramayana* (multiple choice and matching):

Matching questions will concern characters listed below. Multiple choice questions will concern these characters and all the other topics mentioned below. (These multiple choice questions will frequently be worded in a negative form (“Which one is NOT true?” or “All of the following are true EXCEPT one– which one?”) To answer these, look at each to see if it’s true; there will be one that isn’t.

Important characters: There will be a matching section on these characters. Also, there will be multiple choice questions concerning their choices and values (reasons for doing things, reactions and why, what they want others to do and the reasons they offer). ***Oedipus the King*: Oedipus, Jocasta, Creon, Tiresias, Corinthian messenger, shepherd; *Ramayana*: Rama, Sita, Lakshmana, Dasarutha, Kausalya, Kaikeyi, Hanuman, Ravana, Mareecha, Soorpanakha, Jatayu, Sampathi, Vali, Sugreeva.**

Study for the test by noting (beside each name) that character’s main characteristics (including typical physical descriptions), attitudes, values, choices, and role in the plot. Questions will also concern 1) what arguments are used to get someone to do something; 2) how others react to the choices; 3) values (e.g. “service”) and what demonstrates them.

Historical periods, nationalities, languages, authors, and genres of the various works (this question will include *The Odyssey*, as well as *The Ramayana* (both the Sanskrit and Tamil versions) and *Oedipus the King*).

Multiple choice questions: These will be related to the reading and quiz questions, to important plot events that would influence interpretation, and to what is said above under “Important Characters.”

Consider, for instance, character qualities of Rama that are emphasized (through incidents, through what people say about him and the effect he has on others, and through his relationships to others.) Refer to the important plot episodes below and consider what value (or point) is demonstrated in each (looking at key characters in that sequence and what they say concerning their motives, their choices, their reactions).

Multiple choice questions related to characteristics of an epic, of dharma, of karma, of maya; also comparisons between these works and *The Odyssey*.

Matching quotes or descriptions to characters and works (chosen on the basis of major actions, reactions, motivations, character qualities, ways of seeing (why characters do things).

Short Answer Questions (1 or 2): related to finding examples of such concepts as illusion/self-delusion (maya), compassion/forgiveness, service (defined as willing help with no tangible profit to oneself).

Important plot episodes in *The Ramayana*:

- Exposition: the king’s barrenness and the reason Vishnu incarnates himself as Rama
- Rama’s trip, his meeting with Sita and how he wins her
- Rama’s refusal of kingship and exile to the forest
- Soorpanakha’s encounter with Rama
- Sita’s abduction
- The story of Vali and Sugreeva
- Alliance with the monkey kingdom and Hanuman’s search for Sita
- Rama’s battle with Ravana
- Sita’s proof and the end of the story