

Climax

Rising Action

Falling Action

Resolution

Exposition

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Theme
Free will is
merely an
illusion to man.

Significance

- Illustrates Aristotle's theory
- Shows how man is the center of the universe
- Shows how man is the center of the universe
- Shows how man is the center of the universe

Works Cited

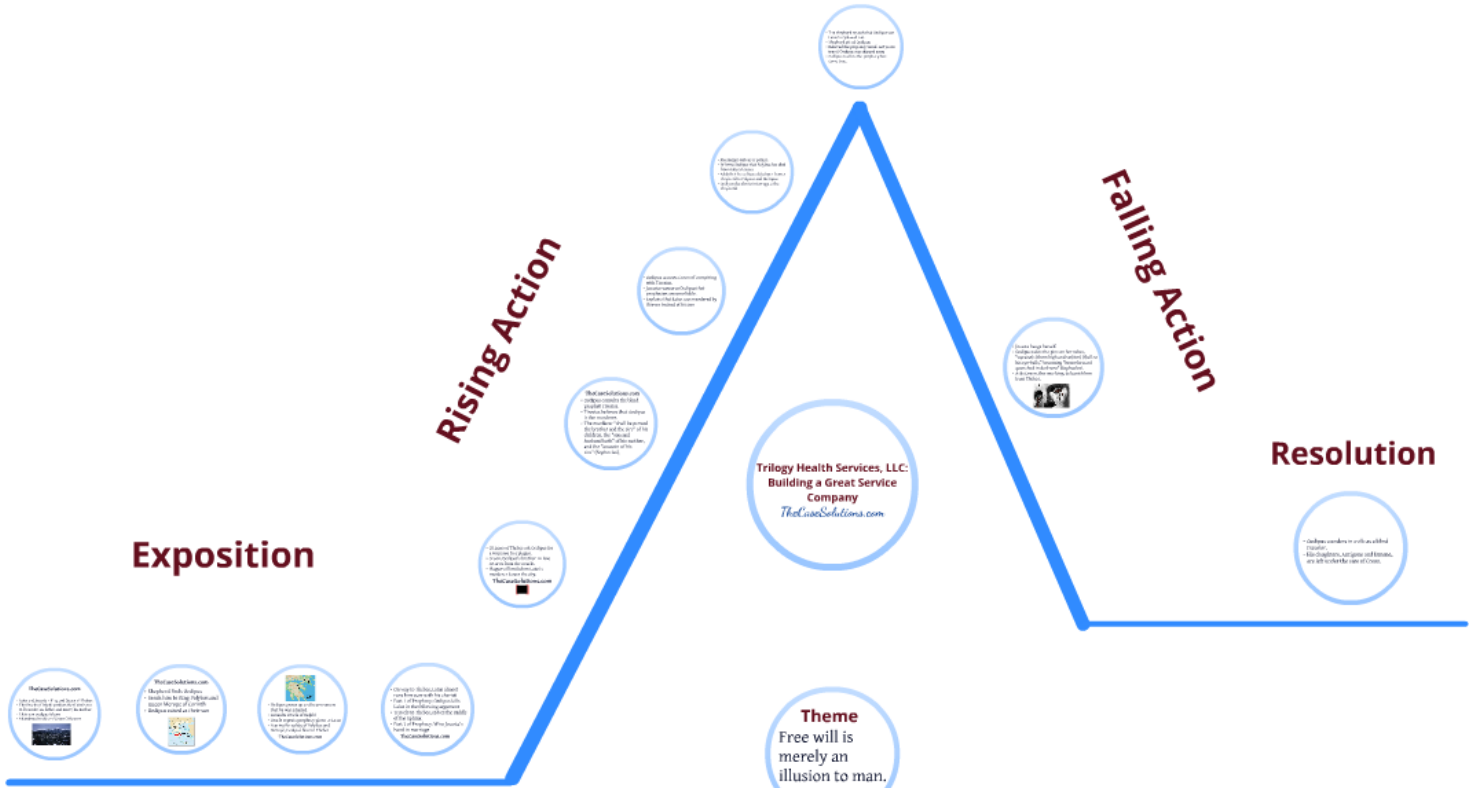
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- Laius and Jocasta = King and Queen of Thebes
- The Oracle of Delphi predicts that Laius's son will murder his father and marry his mother
- Their son Oedipus is born
- Abandoned to die on Mount Cithaeron



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- Shepherd finds Oedipus
- Sends him to King Polybus and Queen Merope of Corinth
- Oedipus raised as their son





- Oedipus grows up and hears rumors that he was adopted
- Consults Oracle of Delphi
- Oracle repeats prophecy given to Laius
- Fearing for safety of Polybus and Merope, Oedipus flees to Thebes

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- On way to Thebes, Laius almost runs him over with his chariot
- Part 1 of Prophecy: Oedipus kills Laius in the following argument
- Travels to Thebes, solves the Riddle of the Sphinx
- Part 2 of Prophecy: Wins Jocasta's hand in marriage

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Q: What walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon, and three legs in the evening?

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A: Man.

- Citizens of Thebes ask Oedipus for a response to a plague.
- Creon, Oedipus's brother-in-law, returns from the Oracle.
- Plague will end when Laius's murderer leaves the city.

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- Oedipus consults the blind prophet Tiresias.
- Tiresias believes that Oedipus is the murderer.
- The murderer "shall be proved the brother and the sire" of his children, the "son and husband both" of his mother, and the "assassin of his sire" (Sophocles).