



Study Questions

Question 1: Discuss the characterisation of Hippolytus/Phaedra/The Nurse/Theseus in *Hippolytus*.

Question 2: “In *Hippolytus* all the characters are fundamentally flawed.” Discuss this view of the play.

Question 3: “The Nurse is the one character with no redeeming features in *Hippolytus*.” To what extent do you agree with this assessment?

Question 4: “Hippolytus’s pride and inflexibility render his death untragic.” To what extent do you agree with this assessment?

Question 5: Discuss the ways in which failures of communication are responsible for much of the tragedy in *Hippolytus*.

Question 6: Whose fate is the most tragic in *Hippolytus*?

Question 7: “*Hippolytus* presents women as suspicious and dangerous.” To what extent do you agree with this assessment?

Question 8: How is youth presented in *Hippolytus*?

Question 9: How is sexuality presented in *Hippolytus*?

Question 10: Discuss how the theme of reputation is presented in *Hippolytus*.

Question 11: “The message of *Hippolytus* is that tragedy is inevitable when people lack moderation.” Discuss this view of the play.