English – Kirk **Aristotle’s Rules of Tragic Plot**

**Model Text:** Oedipus Rex by Sophocles

**Oedipus**

1. Tragic hero
* Single main character
* Elevated position – born into
* FALLS – higher up = harder fall
* FALL INVOLVES OTHERS

**Hubris:**

* **Angry**
* **Egotistical**
* **Paranoid**
1. Tragic flaw
	* Weakness in character
	* Unaware of weakness
	* Catches them by surprise

**Kills Laius**

1. Tragic fall/mistake
	* Fatal
	* Act of pride/excess
	* Important wrong decision that leads to hero’s demise. No going back.

**Fate**

1. The jealousy of the gods
	* Hero is struggling with a superior force i.e. gods/divine social traditions/FATE
2. CATHARSIS = we fear for the character; we respect force

**Herdsman Scene - Shepherd**

1. Recognition scene
	* Understanding 5W’s of situation
	* Too late
2. CATHARSIS = we feel pity 🡪 humanity
3. Nemesis

**Stabs out eyes**

* + Total ruin/humiliation