



Erasmus+



Lesson Plan: Greek history. A presentation of the Legal System.

Classroom immersion: 21/ 02/2018

A virtual court for a murder in ancient Greece.

Task: *Students will have to organize a trial for a crime that happened in ancient Athens. They should provide information on this and take up roles (judges, defendants, advocates). A slave who was an eye witness also appeared as a citizen. How the court will react?*

Procedures for Trial in ancient Greece

1. submission of a report referant or complaint to the local lord for a private offense
2. the time and the judge had to be appointed
3. the appellant had to summon the accused. The summons included the charge and date that would be brought before the judge
4. During the preliminary examination (interrogation), the parties presented their allegations and vowed for their sincerity (andomusia)
5. The lord could ask questions to both parties
6. the defendant could always present a witness who would confirm a fact (protest) .
7. When the parties ended their speeches, the judges would vote secretly whether the accused was guilty or not.



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Students, on the occasion of the ancient tragedy "Antigone", organize a debate in which they should answer the question:

Should the law of the state or the divine law prevail?

1. *Antigoni was one of the four children that Oedipus acquired with Iokastis, queen of Thebes, without knowing that she was his birth mother. The rest of their children were Ismini, Etecoles and Polyneikis.*



Theatrical performance: Oedipus Tyrannos



*Eteochos and Polyneikes conflict.
London, British Museum*

2. *Oedipus had cursed his sons to disagree on the sharing of their heritage and to be murdered because they had violated his orders*

3. *After the first year of governance, Eteochos refused to give the throne to Polyneikes. Polyneikes went to Argos and organized a campaign against Thebes*

4. The two brothers were killed in a duel with each other. The throne was then taken over by Creon, the brother of Iocastas, who ordered that Polineikis' corpse be dishonored because he betrayed his homeland.



*Theatrical performance: Antigone
King Creon*



*The dead Polynikis and Antigoni
(representation)*

5. Antigoni announces her decision to bury Polinyikis, according to the divine unwritten laws. No corpse must be dishonored, for not receiving funeral honors. Ismini refuses to helper, fearing Creon's power.



*Theatrical performance: Antigone
King King and Antigoni*