

## **Assignment Sheet Essay #3 (Drama) On Campus**

**Assignment:** Choose one of the questions below and, after pre-writing and completing a reasons and evidence worksheet and thesis statement at home, come in prepared to write a full in-class essay (title, intro, body paragraphs, conclusion: min. 5 paragraphs) which answers it. Remember, your purpose is to argue that your view is correct.

You must hand in all pre-writing associated with the essay.

### **Directions: REREAD PLAY**

Be sure you have read and understood the definitions of an essay, thesis and division statement, topic sentences, introduction, and conclusion included in “Dr. Bordelon’s Glossary” (Read 12).

Follow the suggestions in “In-class Essay Suggestions” (Read 50) and “So, You Wanna’ Write a Good Literary Essay” (Read 46). Remember to check with me if you have any questions or concerns.

### **What you may bring in:**

1. Any writing handbook (Your 151 textbook, for example)
2. Thesis statement and reasons and evidence worksheet
3. Dictionary and Thesaurus
4. *Read in Order to Live*
5. *Literature: an Introduction.*
6. Your brain

**NOTE:** Any other material, sections of essays, introductions, etc. will be removed by me.

**BUDGET YOUR TIME:** Do all of your thinking at home and come to class prepared to write. Even your titles and introductions and conclusions can be worked on at home, and jotted down quickly when you come in to class (though you won't be able to bring them in already written).

I cannot grade on what might have been: I have to base my grade on what is in front of me, so be sure to complete the essay.

### **Questions:**

#### ***Hamlet***

1. How does Shakespeare show, throughout the play, that "something is rotten in Denmark"? Be sure to define exactly what you mean by “rotten” early in your essay.
2. What does all the acting suggest in the play? What is Shakespeare suggesting about the characters, or more generally, mankind itself, in relation to acting? State what you think this is in a word or phrase, then prove it in the body of your essay.
3. Why, specifically, is the play filled with references to "reason," "conscience," or "thinking"? Choose one of these ideas and, after defining what you mean by the term, state clearly in a word or short phrase your answer to this question, and then explain yourself. How does the rest of the play support your point?

### **Grading Criteria:**

To receive a passing grade, you must successfully complete the following:

**Organization:** Have a clear thesis statement, which suggests how a particular question is valid. You must also include a clear division statement which is then developed in separate paragraphs with clear topic sentences.

**Content:** Paragraphs that use specific quotes and examples from the story to prove your point – AND a full and complete discussion on why and how that particular quote or word proves your point. REMEMBER: examples do not speak for themselves – the core of a good literary essay is in your commentary and explanations of the examples.

**Proofreading:** Sentences that are clear and no more than 5 major errors. Note on handwriting: if I can't read it, you will receive a failing grade: if in doubt, print.

**Major errors:** Sentence fragments, run-on sentences, verb-tense error, subject-verb agreement error, unclear phrasing/tangled wording, words that I cannot decipher, and spelling/wrong word error.