

Tuesday

Your Last Name 1

Your Name
Instructor's Name
English 1600
Date Due

10/22

Due
Act I Act II

SAMPLE

Hamlet
Scene Structure of Act III

Scene I: A castle room

King, Queen, Polonius, Ophelia, Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, Hamlet, Lords

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern report on Hamlet's condition and that he was glad to see the theatrical troupe. Claudius tells them to encourage Hamlet in "these delights."

King, Queen, Polonius, and Ophelia discuss how her love could help Hamlet return to himself. They ask Ophelia to remain in the hall, reading her prayer book, and to talk to Hamlet when he comes in.

"To be" speech. Ophelia tries to return Hamlet's love letters. They are at odds with each other. "Get thee to a nunnery" speech. Hamlet leaves.

The king and Polonius return, speculating in Ophelia's presence about whether Hamlet is mad for love of her. Ophelia has no response.

Scene II: A castle hall

Hamlet and three of the actors discuss the additional scene to their play, which is designed to reenact King Hamlet's murder by Claudius and to draw him out. Hamlet (Shakespeare) gives the actors stage directions.

Polonius, Rosencrantz, and Guildenstern briefly enter and Hamlet asks them to hurry the king and queen to the performance of the play.

Horatio enters and Hamlet asks his collusion to observe the king's reaction to the murder scene from the play.

Full court arrives to see the play. Hamlet seeks to sit near Ophelia. The play is performed and Ophelia asks Hamlet what it all means.

The Player King Hamlet and Player Queen Gertrude discuss how great their love is and she assures him that no man could compare to him if she lost him. "The lady doth protest too much methinks," says the real Queen Gertrude. Hamlet says the plot is based on a murder done in Vienna, Austria, about Duke Gonzago and his wife Baptista.

The actor Lucianus enters and reenacts the actual poisoning scene. Everybody exits in a huff except for Hamlet and Horatio, who then discuss Claudius's guilty reaction.