

Second Short Essay Assignment

Due Tuesday, October 27.

Five pages, double-spaced, paginated. At the top of the first page, place your original title and your name. This assignment does not call for a Works Cited page, unless you bring in outside sources.

Select a significant short passage in *Hamlet* and discuss its importance to the play as a whole. The passage might be a soliloquy, a part of a long speech by a single character, or a short exchange between characters.



What is the specific contribution (or contributions) of the passage? What does it add to the play? How does it contribute to the meaning of *Hamlet*?

To be significant, a passage should do much more than advance the plot. I expect you to read the passage very closely, meaning you should not cite words you don't discuss.

Bring at least one critical article from the Norton Critical Edition into your argument. Make sure to reference at least three of the critical terms in "Elements of Drama" in your analysis.

***Laurence Olivier as Hamlet
1948 movie version***