

TASK SIX
Hamlet Essay Exam

Standards

1. Develop and compose an introduction with a debatable main claim and other key parts (e.g., hook, background, bridge).
2. Support a main claim using evidence (e.g., direct quotes, paraphrasing, and textual analysis).
3. Develop and compose a conclusion that brings closer to the topic.
4. Produce a clear and coherent essay taking into account proper structure, organization, author's purpose, transitions, mechanics, and quality support.

Task

Now that we have completed the play, consider the following prompt:

You are an anonymous reporter called to the crime scene in Denmark by Hamlet's good friend Horatio. Like him, you are gravely concerned about what has taken place recently in your homeland. After gaining insight into the goings-on at the castle you have determined that most definitely "something was rotten in the state of Denmark." Those left behind are looking for answers and someone to blame.

Use your knowledge of the play, its events, and characters to figure out who you think is **most** responsible for the tragic ending to the royal family and the other main characters. Develop and compose a clear and coherent essay taking into account proper structure, organization, your purpose, transitions, mechanics, and quality support (including **at least two** textual citations per body paragraph).

Remember to consider: sequence of events, motives, suspicions, the death of King Hamlet, character actions, marriages, plans, plots, deaths, and potential future kings

You may use your study guide, class notes, and book to help locate support. Keep our class-made rubric in mind.

Rubric

*Would utilize class-made rubric from Process Task 3, criteria and descriptors may vary

Introduction			
CRITERIA	Poor (0-1)	Adequate (2-3)	Excellent (4)
Hook	Hook doesn't entice a reader to keep reading	Hook somewhat entices a reader to keep reading	Hook effectively entices a reader to keep reading
Bridge and Background Information	Bridge and/or background don't help the reader gain a context for the paper and are not relevant	Bridge and/or background somewhat help the reader gain a context for the paper and are mostly relevant	Bridge and background helps the reader gain a context for the paper and are relevant to
Main Claim (x2)	The main claim is not debatable or doesn't give the reader a preview of the paper		The main claim is debatable and gives the reader a preview of the paper

Body Paragraph (B1, B2, B3)			
CRITERIA	Poor (0-1)	Adequate (2-3)	Excellent (4)
Topic Sentence	Topic sentence doesn't state what the paragraph is going to be about	Topic sentence doesn't clearly state what the paragraph is going to be about	Topic sentence clearly states what the paragraph is going to be about
Evidence Used (x2)	Few pieces of evidence used support the topic sentence	Most pieces of evidence used support the topic sentence	All pieces of evidence used support the topic sentence
Inclusion of Textual Quotes	No textual quotes are used	Only one textual quote is used	Two textual quotes are used
Incorporation of Textual quotes (x2)	No introduction and/or explanation are provided with either quote		Both introduction and explanation are provided with both quotes
Analysis (x2)	Analysis doesn't help develop the argument of the paragraph	Most of the analysis helps develop the argument of the paragraph	All of the analysis helps develop the argument of the paragraph
Citations	No citations are given	Incorrect citations are given	Correct citations are given

Conclusion			
CRITERIA	Poor (0-1)	Adequate (2-3)	Excellent (4)
Main Points	The main points are restated verbatim from introduction	Some of the main points are creatively restated	The strongest main points are mentioned
Closure (x2)	There is no sense of closure and/or new	There is some a sense of closure and/or	There is a sense of closure and no new

	ideas are introduced	some new ideas are introduced	ideas are introduced
Resounding Statement (x2)	The resounding statement is omitted or doesn't leave an impression on the reader	The resounding statement somewhat leaves an impression on the reader	The resounding statement leaves an impression on the reader

Overall Effect and Style			
CRITERIA	Poor (0-1)	Adequate (2-3)	Excellent (4)
Conventions	Messy, illegible and a few mechanics errors	Neat and legible and/or mostly free of mechanics errors	Neat and legible and free of mechanics errors
Presentation and Organization	The mini essay is takes into account the proper structure but is confusing and lacks organization	The mini essay is clear and coherent taking into account the proper structure but lacks organization	The mini essay is clear and coherent taking into account the proper structure and organization

Comments:

Introduction ____

Body 1 ____

Body 2 ____

Body 3 ____

Conclusion ____

Overall Effect and Style ____

TOTAL POINTS ____