

## Taking a "Break" from "the Article of the Week"

Instead of reacting to the "Article of the Week", let's do something different.

Beginning with Act 1 of "Hamlet", let's respond to something that occurred within each act of the play.

You'll be given several prompts to respond to from each act of the play.

You only have to select **one** of the prompts.

The same requirement that we had for the A of W holds true for these new prompts

- MLA Format
- Typed
- Due on Friday of the same week given
- Seventeen line minimum (that's the least amount)
- NO: you/your/you're
- NO: "I feel...", "I think...", "I believe...", "In my opinion...", "in conclusion..."

Let's add one more criteria:

- Two (2) examples within the act to prove what you are writing about

What you gonna do? Write about the play When you gonna do it? By Fri-day
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English 12

*The Tragedy of Hamlet*

Act I Writing Prompt

Choose one:

Exposition is defined as "the part of the story, usually near the beginning, in which the characters are introduced, the background is explained, and the setting is described". Consider how Shakespeare characterizes Hamlet, Claudius, or Polonius in Act I and write an essay in which you support your ideas with textual evidence.

After reading Act I, discuss what you believe to be the significance of King Hamlet's armor. What "warlike" elements appear in Act I which help to establish the conflicts for the story? Write a well-developed essay in which you examine how Shakespeare establishes conflicts in Act I. Support your response with textual evidence from the play.

The ghost in Hamlet is an interesting character because no one but Hamlet is able to communicate with it. Horatio warns Hamlet not to follow the ghost because it might "draw [him] into madness." Much of the rest of the play deals with the idea that Hamlet may be, in fact, mad. In a response, argue whether or not the Ghost is a reliable source of information.