

Name _____



Hamlet's Dilemma

Prince Hamlet of Denmark was a young man with a heavy heart. His father, the king, had died unexpectedly, and soon after, his uncle Claudius took the throne. What made it worse was that Claudius had also married Hamlet's mother, Queen Gertrude. Hamlet felt that something was wrong, but he had no proof. Then, one night, a ghost appeared. It was the spirit of his father, who told Hamlet that Claudius

had poisoned him. The ghost asked Hamlet to seek justice.

Now, Hamlet had a problem. Should he believe the ghost? If Claudius really killed his father, should he take revenge? Hamlet was filled with doubt and fear. He did not want to kill an innocent man, but he also could not ignore the ghost's words. Instead of acting right away, he pretended to be mad so he could observe Claudius without raising suspicion.

As time passed, Hamlet's sadness and confusion grew. He pushed away the people who cared about him, including Ophelia, a kind young woman who loved him. He also argued with his mother, demanding to know why she had married Claudius so quickly. Hamlet even set up a play to watch Claudius's reaction and see if he looked guilty.

Eventually, Hamlet had proof that Claudius was the murderer. Still, he hesitated. Was revenge the right thing to do? Would it make things better, or would it only bring more pain? Hamlet's delay led to a series of tragic events. Ophelia drowned in sorrow, and his best friend, Laertes, turned against him. In the end, Hamlet did take action, but it was too late—many lives, including his own, were lost.

Hamlet's story is one of deep thinking and difficult choices. His internal conflict—his struggle to decide what was right—shaped everything that happened. If he had acted sooner, things might have turned out differently. But Hamlet's doubts and fears led to one of the most famous tragedies ever told.