**Act 3 Scene 1 HAMLET**

To be, or not to be: that is the question:

Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer

The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune,

Or to take arms against a sea of troubles,

And by opposing end them? To die: to sleep;

No more; and by a sleep to say we end

The heart-ache and the thousand natural shocks

That flesh is heir to, 'tis a consummation

Devoutly to be wish'd. To die, to sleep;

To sleep: perchance to dream: ay, there's the rub;

For in that sleep of death what dreams may come

When we have shuffled off this mortal coil,

Must give us pause: there's the respect

That makes calamity of so long life;

For who would bear the whips and scorns of time,

The oppressor's wrong, the proud man's contumely,

The pangs of despised love, the law's delay,

The insolence of office and the spurns

That patient merit of the unworthy takes,

When he himself might his quietus make

With a bare bodkin? who would fardels bear,

To grunt and sweat under a weary life,

But that the dread of something after death,

The undiscover'd country from whose bourn

No traveller returns, puzzles the will

And makes us rather bear those ills we have

Than fly to others that we know not of?

Thus conscience does make cowards of us all;

And thus the native hue of resolution

Is sicklied o'er with the pale cast of thought,

And enterprises of great pith and moment

With this regard their currents turn awry,

And lose the name of action.--Soft you now!

The fair Ophelia! Nymph, in thy orisons

Be all my sins remember'd.

**Questions:**

*In the first lines when Hamlet laments, “To be or not to be—that is the question” he is wondering?*

*What style of conflict in this soliloquy?*

*When Hamlet talks about suffering “The slings and arrows of outrageous fortune” what literary device is he using?*

*When Hamlet refers to “The undiscovered country from whose bourn/No traveler returns” he is referring to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

*Hamlet says, “Who would fardels bear,/To grunt and sweat under a weary life.” The word choice (diction) in these lines most shows what about the nature of living?*

*What’s the tone of this speech? How do you know that is the correct tone?*

**Act 4 Scene 4 HAMLET**

I'll be with you straight go a little before.

Exeunt all except HAMLET

How all occasions do inform against me,

And spur my dull revenge! What is a man,

If his chief good and market of his time

Be but to sleep and feed? a beast, no more.

Sure, he that made us with such large discourse,

Looking before and after, gave us not

That capability and god-like reason

To fust in us unused. Now, whether it be

Bestial oblivion, or some craven scruple

Of thinking too precisely on the event,

A thought which, quarter'd, hath but one part wisdom

And ever three parts coward, I do not know

Why yet I live to say 'This thing's to do;'

Sith I have cause and will and strength and means

To do't. Examples gross as earth exhort me:

Witness this army of such mass and charge

Led by a delicate and tender prince,

Whose spirit with divine ambition puff'd

Makes mouths at the invisible event,

Exposing what is mortal and unsure

To all that fortune, death and danger dare,

Even for an egg-shell. Rightly to be great

Is not to stir without great argument,

But greatly to find quarrel in a straw

When honour's at the stake. How stand I then,

That have a father kill'd, a mother stain'd,

Excitements of my reason and my blood,

And let all sleep? while, to my shame, I see

The imminent death of twenty thousand men,

That, for a fantasy and trick of fame,

Go to their graves like beds, fight for a plot

Whereon the numbers cannot try the cause,

Which is not tomb enough and continent

To hide the slain? O, from this time forth,

My thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth!

**Questions:**

*In this speech, Hamlet says he is “A beast, no more” and wonders about “Bestial oblivion.” His choice of words reveals what opinion about mankind*

*Find a line from the speech that inspired Hamlet to take action. Why does he need to take action in the play? What injustice has happened?*

*Find the line, “Go to their graves like beds.” This is an example of what literary device?*

*“O, from this time forth/My thoughts be bloody or be nothing worth!” We know from this line that Hamlet is ready to take revenge on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.*

*What’s the tone in this soliloquy? How do you know?*