**Hamlet Worksheet**

4.4.32-66

*“How All Occasions . . . ”*

What “occasions” that inform against him might he be referring to?

What lines evidence Hamlet’s continuing attack on “reason?”

What contrast does Hamlet see between Fortenbras’ army and himself? (lines ?)

What previous scenes/speeches does this one mirror?

How does he define “greatness” when honor is at stake?”

How is Hamlet’s honor at stake? What are the sources of his sense of sense of dishonor?

Explicate the significance of the last two lines: “O from this time forward, my thoughts be bloody . . . ”

How might this speech be seen as providing further evidence of Hamlet’s masochistic tendencies?

**Ophelia** (4.5. 155-195; 5.1. 160-180)

How does Shakespeare dramatize Ophelia’s madness?

What is psychologically realistic about his depiction of madness?

How do her songs evidence her madness?

How are they prophetic?

How does her madness mirror and/or differ from Hamlet’s?

What may have been the contributing causes to her?

How is Hamlet responsible for her madness in two ways?

What imagery is associated with her madness and suicide (5.1.160-180)

How might the willow limb be a symbol of Ophelia?

How does Shakespeare dramatize her madness in the midst of dying?

How is her madness here a mirror of the previous scene?

Explicate the significance of the line “as one incapable of her own distress.”

If we wanted to read Ophelia’s death as a symbolic drowning, what has been “drowned” in Elsinore?