

Shakespeare's Hamlet

Scholar NAME _____

Multiple Choice (1 points each)

Class Period _____

Circle or Write the Best Answer

1. Where is the university at which Horatio and Hamlet studied?

- a. Paris
- b. Wittenberg
- c. Venice
- d. Britain

2. In the opening scene of the drama, Barnardo comes to take over Francisco's watch. When Horatio arrives, they tell him that _____.

- a. the ghost of the deceased Hamlet appeared to them again
- b. Fortinbra's army is preparing to attack Poland
- c. Prince Hamlet seems confused and distracted
- d. there are inauspicious signs in the Zodiac
- e. none of the above

3. Denmark is preparing for war because _____.

- a. the king of Poland, a longtime enemy, plans to attack
- b. the prince of Norway plots to retake land that the Danish seized from his father
- c. the people, who loved the slain King Hamlet, are threatening to rebel and overthrow Claudius
- d. Hamlet, a scholarly prince, has yet to be tested in battle and must lead the Danish army into Norway

4. Laertes is _____.

- a. Hamlet's closest friend
- b. the son of Polonius
- c. the brother of Ophelia
- d. all of the above
- e. b and c are true

5 . According to Claudius and Gertrude, Hamlet ____.

- a. mourns too long over his father's death
- b. is a disobedient, unappreciative youth who needs discipline
- c. is a frivolous young man who has much maturing to do before he can ever be king of Denmark
- d. is an unstable youth who suffers from mental illness

6 . As Laertes goes off to France, he advises Ophelia to ____.

- a. view Hamlet's advances as a passing fancy
- b. seduce Hamlet so that she will be his queen someday
- c. spy on Hamlet to learn what ails him
- d. disregard the advice of their father, who is more verbose than wise

7. From King Hamlet's ghost, Prince Hamlet learns that ____.

- a. Claudius murdered his father by pouring poison in his ear while he slept
- b. Claudius took his father's life without giving him the opportunity to confess his sins
- c. Claudius and Queen Gertrude had an adulterous relationship
- d. he expects Prince Hamlet to avenge his death
- e. all of the above

8. Prince Hamlet demands that Horatio and the other observers ____.

- a. help him find out the truth about his father's death
- b. join him in overthrowing King Claudius when the time comes
- c. swear not to tell what they have seen and heard
- d. all of the above

9. Polonius sends Reynaldo to Paris to ____.

- a. deliver information about Hamlet's madness
- b. serve as his son's bodyguard
- c. spy on his son
- d. all of the above

10. Ophelia is upset and frightened by ____.

- a. Hamlet's bold advances
- b. her brother's hasty departure
- c. Hamlet's strange dress and behavior with her
- d. a conversation she overheard between Claudius and her father

11. Claudius has sent for Rosencrantz and Guildenstern because he wants them to ____.

- a. spy on Hamlet
- b. keep Hamlet company in his time of sorrow
- c. train Hamlet in the art of swordsmanship
- d. show Hamlet that even his friends respect Claudius as the new King

12. Polonius tells Claudius and Gertrude that the cause of Hamlet's prolonged grieving is that ____.

- a. Ophelia has rejected his love
- b. Hamlet is suspicious of his father's death
- c. Hamlet feels his mother has betrayed him
- d. Hamlet has been denied the throne

13. Hamlet, in looking into himself, fears that ____.

- a. he may only want to kill Claudius out of a desire to become king
- b. he is being tempted by a demon to commit an unjust murder
- c. he may not have the courage to avenge his father's death
- d. Ophelia's rejection of his love has made him mad
- e. b and c are true

14. Who escorts Hamlet on the voyage to England?

- a. Cornelius and Voltimand
- b. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern
- c. Marcellus and Bernardo
- d. Iago and Cassio

15. Just before Hamlet delivers his famous soliloquy, Claudius reveals that

- a. he plans to murder Hamlet
- b. he is afraid that Gertrude will turn from him
- c. he carries the heavy burden of wearing a false face to hide a guilty heart
- d. he plans to send Hamlet to England

16. In his "To be or not to be" soliloquy, Hamlet ____.

- a. plots his course in seeking revenge
- b. dreams of the fair Ophelia
- c. considers suicide
- d. plans his escape to England

17. Hamlet is cruel to Ophelia because ____.

- a. he wants her to think he is mad
- b. he suspects she has rejected him for another love
- c. he projects his indecision onto her
- d. she seems to favor Laertes over him

18. Ophelia returns Hamlet's remembrances to him because ____.

- a. her father has insisted that she reject Hamlet's love
- b. she thinks Hamlet is mad
- c. Laertes has urged her to make a better choice
- d. a and b are true

19 . During the play, Horatio and Hamlet both observe that ____.

- a. Polonius is watching Hamlet's every move and examining his speech
- b. Gertrude is clinging to the arm of her husband
- c. Ophelia is reciting poems under her breath
- d. Claudius rises in response to the poisoning of the King

20. After the Mouse-trap play, Claudius decides ____.

- a. to forbid Hamlet from spending time with Ophelia because of his madness
- b. to send Hamlet to England since he is becoming a danger to his kingship
- c. to send Hamlet to England to pursue theatrical interests with Horatio
- d. a and b are true
- e. all of the above

21. Hamlet decides he can't kill Claudius while he is praying because ____.

- a. Claudius is showing remorse for what he has done
- b. such a deed would damn Hamlet's soul
- c. Claudius would go to heaven instead of hell
- d. b and c are true

22. The crisis, or turning point, in the play takes place ____.

- a. when Claudius reveals his guilt during the theatrical presentation
- b. when Rosencrantz and Guildenstern take Hamlet to England
- c. when Hamlet kills Polonius
- d. when Hamlet decides not to kill Claudius while he is in prayer

23. Although Hamlet has forced Gertrude to see the wrongfulness of her marriage to Claudius, she thinks Hamlet mad when ____.

- a. he speaks to the air as if it were his father
- b. he rants at her
- c. he threatens her life
- d. he condemns women for making monsters of men

24. Claudius sends Hamlet to England in order to ____.

- a. protect him from punishment
- b. have him killed
- c. negotiate with Fortinbras
- d. a and c are true

25. The king says that the cause of Ophelia's madness is ____.

- a. "All from her father's death"
- b. "Those feminine hysterics to which women fall prey"
- c. "The faithlessness of the murd'rous Hamlet"
- d. "A love-sickness, which with time must needs pass"

26. Horatio receives a letter from Hamlet that tells him ____.

- a. Hamlet has been kidnapped by pirates
- b. to come to Hamlet's side
- c. Hamlet has much to tell Horatio about Rosencrantz and Guildenstern
- d. all of the above

27. Claudius plots to ____.

- a. set up a practice duel in which Laertes will kill Hamlet with an unprotected sword
- b. anger Laertes to the point of attacking Hamlet in a surprise duel
- c. trick Laertes into fighting Hamlet, whom he knows is a better swordsman
- d. all of the above

28. Laertes adds to Claudius's plot by planning to ____.

- A. get Hamlet drunk so that his swordsmanship is weakened
- B. poison the tip of his sword
- C. poison the cup from which Hamlet will drink
- D. all of the above

29. In case Hamlet is not killed in the duel, Claudius plans to ____.

- a. murder Hamlet in his sleep
- b. give him a poisoned drink
- c. banish him from Denmark
- d. none of the above

30. At Ophelia's funeral, Hamlet ____.

- a. becomes enraged because the priest refuses to perform full rites
- b. leaps into the grave and begins grappling with Laertes
- c. declares he loved Ophelia more than Laertes did
- d. challenges Laertes to a duel
- e. b and c are true

31. In narrating to Horatio what happened on his voyage to England, Hamlet reveals that ____.

- a. Claudius had ordered Rosencrantz and Guildenstern to kill him
- b. he killed Rosencrantz and Guildenstern
- c. he intercepted the king's letter and substituted his own message to England
- d. a and c are true

32. During the duel between Hamlet and Laertes, all of the following happens, except: ____.

- a. Laertes makes the first hit
- b. Laertes wounds Hamlet with the poisoned tip of his sword
- c. Hamlet wounds Laertes with Laertes's sword
- d. Laertes asks Hamlet's pardon and blames the King

33. In her last words to Hamlet, Gertrude tells him ____.

- a. she is sorry for all she has done, and wants his forgiveness
- b. to pray for her salvation
- c. to avoid a blow from Laertes, because his sword is poisoned
- d. that the drink is poisoned

34. At the end of the play, Hamlet begs Horatio to ____.

- a. drink from the poisoned cup and die with him
- b. tell the world his story
- c. fight against Fortinbras to save the Danish throne
- d. b and c are true

35. The play ends with ____.

- a. Hamlet's death
- b. Fortinbras honoring Hamlet and taking the throne
- c. Horatio telling the story that led to this bloody end
- d. King Hamlet's ghost walking across the battlements to his grave

**Match the Letter/ Definition with the Correct
Number / Vocabulary Words to the Left Column**

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|--|
| 1. Hamlet | _____ | A. Believed Hamlet's grief was caused by Ophelia's rejection of his love |
| 2. Norway | _____ | B. A musing aloud by a character who believes he or she is alone |
| 3. soliloquy | _____ | C. Hamlet must avenge his father's death |
| 4. Rosencrantz and Guildenstern | _____ | D. Protagonist |
| 5. Claudius | _____ | E. Antagonist |
| 6. inciting incident | _____ | F. A king whom King Hamlet defeated in battle |
| 7. Polonius | _____ | G. Hamlet's childhood friends |
| 8. mood | _____ | H. Hamlet learns from his father's ghost that Claudius murdered him |
| 9. Barnardo and Marcellus | _____ | I. Reported the appearance of King Hamlet's ghost to Horatio |
| 10. central conflict | _____ | J. The eerie atmosphere when King Hamlet's ghost appears at night |
| 11. resolution | _____ | K. Killed Hamlet |
| 12. Fortinbras | _____ | L. Passed through Denmark on his return from Poland |
| 13. tragedy | _____ | M. A character who provides a contrast to the main character |
| 14. Horatio | _____ | N. The willow tree |
| 15. foil | _____ | O. A literary work in which a figure of high-status falls |
| 16. Laertes | _____ | P. Will tell Hamlet's story |
| 17. theme | _____ | Q. A main idea in a literary work |
| 18. Osric | _____ | R. A courtier whom Hamlet mocks because of his flowery language |
| 19. symbol | _____ | S. To plan the death of another and meet with the same fate that you planned |
| 20. Irony | _____ | T. Claudius dies |

Complete the Questions with Answers from the Play

1. Whose story does Hamlet ask the players to tell upon their arrival to Elsinore?

_____ and _____

2. In what country do Rosencrantz and Guildenstern die?

3. Who killed Fortinbras's father?

4. Who returns Hamlet to Denmark after his exile?

5. Who is Fortinbras? And what is his part in the resolution?

THE END - YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE TEST