

# Hamlet's Lists

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## Why A Ghost would Return?

"If thou hast any sound, or  
use of voice, speak to me:

- if there be any good thing  
to be done, that may to thee  
do ease, and grace to me, speak  
to me: If thou art privy to thy  
Country's fate, which, happily, foreknowing  
may avoid, O, speak! Or, if thou hast  
uphoarded in thy life Extorted treasure  
in the womb of earth, For which, they say  
you spirits oft walk in death Speak  
of it." (Act 1.1. 128-139)

## Is He grieving

" 'Tis not alone my Inky  
cloak cloak, good mother, Nor  
customary suits of Solemn black,  
Nor Windy suspiration of Foul  
breath, No, nor, the fruitful  
river in the eye, Nor the  
dejected haviour of the  
visage, Together  
with all forms, mould  
Shows of grief.. "

(Act 1.2. 78-83)

## Is He Mad?

" - with his doublet all unbraced;  
No hat upon his head; his stockings foul'd,  
Ungarter'd, and down-gyred to his ankles;  
Pale as his shirt; his knees Knocking each other,  
And with a look so piteous in purport As it he had  
been loosed out of hell." (Act 2.1. 75-82)

## Is He Old?

"For the Satirical rogue says here, that old men have gray beards;  
that their faces are wrinkled; their eyes purging thick amber and plumtree  
gum; and that they have a plentiful lack of wit, together with most  
weak hams. (Act 2.2. 197-201)

# Hamlet's Themes

## • Death

- "Hamlet, thou art Slain; No medicine in the world can do thee good, In thee is not half an hour of life; The treacherous intruder is in thy hand, Unbated and envenom'd..." (Act 5. 2. 314-317)

## • Revenge

"Now might I do it pat, now he is praying  
And now I'll do it: - and so he goes to heaven; And so am I revenged  
- That would be scanned: A villain kills my father: and, for that,  
I, his sole son, do this same villain send to Heaven." (Act 3. 3. 75-78)

## • Madness

- "This is the very coinage  
of your brain: This bodiless  
Creation ecstasy is very  
unning in" (Act 3. 4. 94-96)

## • Brief

"I loved Ophelia: Forty  
thousand brothers could not,  
with all their quantity of love,  
make up my sum..." (Act 5.  
1. 276-278)

## • Spying / Eavesdropping

"At such a time I'll loose my daughter to him:  
Be you and I behind an Arras then; Marke  
the encounter..." (Act 2. 2. 164-166)