

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1-1 Background

In studying literature one of the most aspects of it is understanding what has been termed as literary devices in general. This term in literature is always a place of confusion for many learners, and especially those students who major literature field. Understanding literary devices is key to understanding any literary work either written or performed as the case in plays.

Commonly, the term Literary Devices refers to the typical structures used by writers in their works to convey message(s) in a simple manner to their readers. When employed properly, the different literary devices help readers to appreciate, interpret and analyze a literary work and through literary analysis approach which means the practice of looking closely at small parts to see how they affect the whole(Literary Devices Editors, 2013).

Literary analysis also focuses on how elements such as plot/structure, character, setting, and many other techniques are used by authors to create meaningful story and dramatic effects to enhance their theme and plot strongly.

In respect to the plays, there are also common literary techniques used by playwrights to develop a literary piece e.g. plot, setting, structure, characters, mood, theme, moral etc. without these key devices, playwrights cannot create their desired work without including them in a professional manner and to give the work a taste.

Playwrights usually use varied types of literary technique to create strong mood and interest in the audience. They can make the audience feel the emotion and action of the play by getting them on hold or create in them suspense which is the future events expectation that requires patience and eager to be enacted. Dramatic techniques if used properly, they create motivation by making the audience of much interest and continue the course of the entire play eagerly.

This research studied one of the Dramatic techniques used in Hamlet as play; that is Soliloquies. Soliloquy is one of the powerful Dramatic techniques used by playwrights to strengthen their plot and convey impressive theme. Since literary analysis generally is one of the core subject of studying literature, this research aimed at providing an example of how plays, novels, fictions... etc are analyzed, using literary technique analysis. The focus of the study is the play Hamlet, written by Shakespeare.

Hamlet is one of the plays which is rich with literary techniques especially Soliloquy which is key in advancing the structure of the plot. Once read fully, this study help readers and acquaint them with how to analyze any literary work with focus on plays through literary techniques analysis.

1-2 Statement of the problem

In studying literature by common, and specifically by those students who major the field, they assumed do not pay attention to one of the major aspect of studying literature. Since to the best of the researcher's knowledge that there is possibly that such interested groups in literature generally unable to analyze a piece of literary work such as novels, plays, short stories, and prose ...to name just a few; the researcher meant in this study to elaborate clearly what Soliloquy is in general with a specific focus on (Hamlet) as one of the plays in which this technique was used as well as highlighting the masterfulness of Shakespeare as

a playwright. The researcher wanted to bring those interested in literature, especially students who studying/majoring literature to acquaint them with the way on how to analyze any dramatic art especially of plays if they encounter.

1-3 Research questions

- What are the key Seven Soliloquies as spoken by Hamlet the Prince?
- Do Soliloquies with their full sense as used by Shakespeare have an effect upon shaping and strengthening the plot and theme in Hamlet?
- In which way Shakespeare is the master of using Soliloquies?

1-4 The Hypotheses of the Study

The hypotheses of the research are formulated as follows:

- 1- Understanding Soliloquies are key to understanding Hamlet as a play.
- 2- Soliloquies have direct effect upon shaping and strengthening the plot and theme in Hamlet.
- 3- Shakespeare is known to have his characters speak in Soliloquies.

1-5 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the research is certainly intended to answer and solve the research problems stated above, that is to say; to explain through literary analysis of how Shakespeare excelled the use of Soliloquy as dramatic technique in Hamlet. In this connection the researcher wanted to elaborate in details how soliloquies were used in the play so that such elaboration is applied

to any literary work of dramatic genre. Also this research will help the common and the average reader to understand the art of literature, and how playwrights beautify their works using literary technique such as Soliloquy.

1-6 Significance of the Study

The results of the research are generally expected to acquaint those interested in literature studies specially students of literature to:

First to know how to define the technique “Soliloquy”, and what function and importance this device has generally in literature. In addition to this, the result expected would work to elaborate more clearly what is Soliloquy as a technique. This elaboration would further acquaint readers in general with what is Soliloquy in literature, its significance ,as well as give them a clear understanding of how Soliloquies were exemplified in Shakespeare’s play Hamlet .Furthermore, the result would acquaint the average reader with how any dramatic work such as tragedies and comedies are analyzed through literary technique analysis method, and encourages the other readers of literature to focus not only on just reading for gaining vocabulary, but also understanding the writers techniques used in conveying their message powerfully.

1-7 The Methodology of the Study

The methodology used in preparing this research is descriptive analysis approach. The tools which were used in this study and collect the data are from books, journals and the play as the primary source. The data might be analyzed literally and critically throughout the writing of the research using analytical approach.

1-8 Limits of the study

This study is limited on Soliloquy as one of the dramatic techniques used in Hamlet, a play written by Shakespeare, an English playwright. For the purpose of achieving the research objectives, the researcher specifically deal with just the Seven Soliloquies as some of among total eleven used by the playwright. In this respect, the play Hamlet was used as an example to be analyzed using literary technique analysis via elaborating how the said Soliloquies advanced the plot and conveyed strong themes. The researcher just in a lesser extend explained a play-within-a play as other play/technique incorporated for emphasis purposes.

1-9 Definitions of key terms

1-Soliloquy

It's a speech which delivered by a character a lone on the theatre to express his/her thought and feeling.

2-Tragedy

A literary work in which the hero is fallen as a result of either own character flaw or by other external factor which beyond the character's control.

3- Tragic flaw

The weakness which exist in a character and which makes him/her fall down.

4-Conflict

The main character's problem that makes him clash with other.

5-Allusion

It's a reference to someone or the obsession that within the characters' mind.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2-1 Background about Hamlet

Hamlet is one of the tragic plays written by the well-known English playwrights William Shakespeare. The play also considers to be belonging to the one of three genres that written by Shakespeare, which are comedy, tragedy and history. Hamlet as a play is perceived to be Shakespeare's longest play and among the most powerful and influential tragedies in English literature as it's still been retold and adapted by others (Taylor, 2006).

Also the play is taken as Shakespeare's most popular works during the time when he was a life and currently still ranks among his most performed plays in English literature. Regarding the status of the play among the others, Hamlet preserves and tops the performance list of Royal Shakespeare Company (a major British theatre company) as well as those written before Hamlet in Stratford-upon-Avon since 1879 crystal, 2005).

Regarding the play's effect on others and its inspiration, Shakespeare's work Hamlet has inspired many writers of literature such as Goethe, Dickens, Joyce, and Murdoch. In terms of filming, it has been described as the world's most filmed story after Cinderella "European folk tale" (Taylor, 2006) which indicates that the play is very important in the field of literature.

Shakespeare's play dramatizes the story of Hamlet the prince and his problem after the death of Hamlet the king - his father .The story takes place in the Denmark at Elsinore Castle as a setting of the story. The play tells the story that Hamlet the prince had been studying in Denmark when the events took place. Hamlet called from study to come and attend his father's mourns after his death.

When comes, he finds things are quickly changed. He finds that his father is killed, finds that his uncle Claudius who killed his father the king has quickly married his mother. Because of all these developments, Hamlet the Prince felt depressed and melancholy, but according to the play his uncle Claudius and his mother Gertrude seems don't know why Hamlet the Prince is so uneasy after his return from Germany. Later, a ghost of his father comes him, informing him that his father is in fact killed by his brother Claudius who uncle of him and asks him to take revenge.

Hamlet the Prince decides to kill his uncle for committing the murder and marrying his mother directly. Hamlet the son will undergo big conflict inside him on whether he continues to kill his uncle based on what the ghost tells him, or to wait and discover the truth by himself and take the action. There are several chances Hamlet skips not killing his uncle because of his psyche, the spirit he has as Hamlet. Claudius tries through asking Gertrude to follow up know the cause of Hamlet depression. They first believe that may be because of his love to Ophelia, daughter of Polonius. But they are uncertain. In order for Hamlet discover the truth he asks a group of players who come as tour to perform an act of killing what reflect the same scenario whereby his father is killed, and in front of the killer, his uncle Claudius so that he know his reaction. When the player plays their part, his uncle the killer leaves the stage, moved by his guilt. Hamlet the son has a chance when he goes to his mother's room. In the room behind the curtain is Polonius, but Hamlet thinks that it's his uncle. Hamlet through the curtain pierces and kills Polonius instead of his uncle. Laertes who is in France returns when his father is killed and he also vows to take revenge. King Claudius benefits from this development to kill Hamlet the Prince by preparing a sword match in a circle between Hamlet the prince and Laertes. Claudius planned with two chance method to kill Hamlet. He gives Laertes a poisoned sword as well as prepared a poison in a cup to drink after

the victory. Claudius knows that Hamlet will win the match first. When they start the match, Laertes wounds Hamlet with the poisoned sword. Gertrude Hamlet mother takes the poisoned drink mistakenly and dies at once. Laertes also gets wounds by Hamlet. Before Laertes dies at first, he speaks the truth, that there is conspiracy and then dies. Hamlet takes Laertes poisoned sword given by Claudius and kill his uncle Claudius. Hamlet the Prince names Fortinbras who was the prince of Norway to be crowned as the king he falls down and die as a result of the poisoned sword. Thus whole the entire royal family dies down.

In conclusion, Shakespeare used his powerful technique soliloquy to develop the structure and the plot of the play which gave Hamlet a unique trait as a play.

2-2 Introduction

Shakespeare is known to be famous with using soliloquies in his plays .He used them in Hamlet (the subject of study), Macbeth, and Romeo and Juliet. Soliloquies are the act of one character speaks to himself while the other characters are away or when they are present (but they don't hear it).

Soliloquy is the speech that directed to the audience and there is usually relation between the character who soliloquizes and the audience. Soliloquies are great dramatic technique used by many playwrights to provide the method of indirect characterization.

Soliloquies on the other hand are powerful devices used by playwrights to provide their method of characterization. Before Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe used in his play Doctor Faustus which revealed the inner thoughts and feelings of the characters as a method of indirect characterization.

There is an issue to be linked here is that there are also two dramatic techniques used by playwrights that puzzle people, which are Monologue and an Aside. These two techniques are distinctly different from the soliloquy. To explain them clearly, the Monologue is a dramatic device which is a speech from a single character to express his or her thoughts aloud on the theatre. And an aside is also a dramatic device which is speech in which a character speaks to the audience.

Finally, in Hamlet there are eleven soliloquies spoken by characters in which seven are by Hamlet, the protagonist of the play. The focus will be given to these seven soliloquies as are key in developing the structure and plot of the play Hamlet. Also Shakespeare incorporated the technique of a play-within-a play as part of reinforcing the drama of his play Hamlet.

Authors of literary works often have different technique and methods on how to reveal to the audience and readers of their works. This bring us to the idea of using and mastering certain techniques which help in understanding the work itself .Since characterization is the method which used to reveal the personality of a character, his thoughts, and feelings, this device is need to be well-chosen so that it has its effect and impression on the reader and on the audience in the case of drama and plays.

2-3 Definition of Soliloquy in Literature

Soliloquy is a word related to drama as one of the genre of literature. it's a speech which usually spoken of a character during the performance of his act

and a part on the stage alone in which the said character reveals his internal thoughts and feelings aloud so that he or she informs the audience about something which is unknown for them before, and also while the character is alone without the presence of other characters. If other characters are present, she or he must not hear what the soliloquizer says (Merriam, 2015).

There are also two other distinct from Soliloquy literary terms which are of the same origin that always confuse people as they are much alike in terms of definition. These two terms are the Monologue and an aside. A monologue is a speech that is spoken by one character addressing other characters, and an aside is a short comment which is done by a character to the audience. This means both Soliloquy and an aside address the audience whereas the Monologue addresses other characters in the play.

This definition no doubt is common if compared with other definitions and it sounds like a common standardization of definition of no dispute. Other sources of definition for this term as defined by Wikipedia are that:

*“A **soliloquy** (from Latin *solo* "to oneself" + *loquor* "I talk") is a device often used in drama when a character speaks to himself or herself, relating thoughts and feelings, thereby also sharing them with the audience, giving off the illusion of being a series of unspoken reflections. If other characters are present, they keep silent and/or are disregarded by the speaker”.*

Concerning the similarity with other literary terms, Wikipedia goes further to define that:

“The term soliloquy is distinct from a monologue or an aside: a monologue is a speech where one character addresses other characters; an aside is a (usually

short) comment by one character towards the audience, though during the play it may seem like the character is addressing him or herself”.

If the immediate above definition compared with the predecessor, it would be found that they are of similar definition except that the second definition added the origin of this term as it was explained above.

In explaining the Soliloquy furthest for example in an opening of a play, a character comes forward and say “who killed my... father,” “who killed... my father” as first words uttered addressing the audience and with such very special tone. When the audience first hears this, they get first glimpse that the speaker’s father is killed by someone, and that such character is very depressed with the killer and in a sad condition as a result of losing his father.

There are several scholars and critics illustrated the importance of the Soliloquies especially in Hamlet, as they are key in understanding the Hamlet as a play especially the main character Hamlet’s hidden psyche and his complexity as a protagonist .Shakespeare as he a man of literature was very famous during his lifetime. He crafted things based on the western culture, and based on concept of selfhood and individualism (Peter, 2010).

3-4 The Role of Soliloquy in Drama

Soliloquies are generally used as a means of and a technique in revealing character’s mind. They help and facilitate the dramatist and the playwrights to show and expose the motives, plan, and what in the character’s mind of action that are expected to be presented. They are well-chosen devices whereby

dramatists employ to communicate to the audience or the readers the innermost hidden secret thoughts and feelings of the characters.

By displaying to the audience or the readers the secrets of the said thoughts and feeling of the characters mind, the dramatist with these tools shed the lights on the mental design of that character as well as the progress of the play's plot. Soliloquies in such way are the true means of the character self-revelation without which all the characters' inner thoughts and feeling as well as their personality will never be displayed by the audience or the readers, and thus they remain ambiguous and un-understandable.

Besides displaying the inner thoughts and life of the speaker, Soliloquies also shed some light on another character by displaying to them what the speaker thinks of that other character or the characters. Soliloquy is a device that allows a character in a play to speak directly to the audience about their motive, feelings, and decisions. They reveal the characters inner thoughts as the character is revealing their true thoughts and emotions.

Hamlet's Soliloquies give the impression of a character discovering him as he speaks. The importance of the Soliloquies is that they are a corner stone to the development of the character on one hand and the development of the entire plot and the theme on the other hand. Hamlet's Soliloquies thus are of high importance and significance as they show the most part of the characters. And moreover they are so effective in a way that views the changing thoughts of the characters.

Shakespeare as he is both writer and a playwright, always a man who touches the real life with dramatically. Therefore, his Characters usually have to reveal more of them to make their thoughts and feelings shared, and thus Playwrights have to deal with real human issues and emotions, which are encountered in

everyday life such as desire, mortality and jealousy, in a way which makes the audience respond sympathetically to those emotions according the direction the emotion feel worthy.

Lastly, by tracing the whole play ,and through these Soliloquies, readers come to feel as if they know Hamlet and his Soliloquies from very beginning, and these Soliloquies contribute too much of that understanding. Thus its rationale to say that Soliloquies are key in revealing thoughts and feeling of the characters mind for the benefit of the audience.

2-5 The Importance of Soliloquies in Drama

Soliloquies in plays are very important. They are considered to be one of the dramatic technique playwrights used in their works to give more impact and influence to their stories. In this regard, Shakespeare is said to be a man who often has his characters speak in Soliloquies during the course of his plays (Alam, 2015).

Soliloquies are important to the presentation of the story by the characters to words the audience. Because they provide chance and help the audience to understand a specific information which cannot be understood through the normal speech.

In Shakespeare's work also, Hamlet the title character is presented to speak in Seven Soliloquies in which each Soliloquy of these seven soliloquies work together to advance the plot structure, reveal Hamlet inner thoughts to the audience, and help to create a good atmosphere in the story.

For instance the first Soliloquy which Hamlet the protagonist delivers give the audience the first glimpse of the character. With this Soliloquy Hamlet tells the

audience his own inner thoughts and feelings by displaying that his father is dead and that his mother is hastily remarriage. These inner thoughts and feelings unless spoken in Soliloquies, the audience remain without clue to what happens in the beginning of the story. This is the reason why Soliloquies are important for the development of the plot structure.

Soliloquies also work to create foreshadows in the plays by way of predicting what is coming ahead as a future events that are lie ahead of the audience and which are expected to happen. Most importantly, in this case, the audience will have a clue if Soliloquy is used and foreshadowed as in the case of Hamlet the Prince.

Most of Shakespeare's Soliloquies in his plays Hamlet are important, because they develop the drama and the characterization of the play. This means that it's not only Soliloquy helps in developing the structure of the story, but also contributes to the method of characterization as in case of Hamlet in which the protagonist is presented as a hero rather than a villain character.

Soliloquies moreover, work as a wheel that they make the story progress by means of developing the plot structure as well without which some elements of the plot structure are missed, and thus weakens the plot structure pyramid which contain initial events, rising actions, crisis, climax, falling action, and lastly resolution or denouement.

This plot construction is very necessary for the story so that an effective well developed plot is built throughout the play. In addition to, this device "Soliloquy" allows a character to reveal the innermost thoughts and feelings in which the character in which the character only reveal his true thoughts without any deception.

Soliloquies on the other hand facilitates the advance in understanding the characters' and the themes of the play. For example in Hamlet case, Hamlet

Soliloquies give impression that there is a man discovering himself as he speaks.

Also Soliloquies are important in the sense that they constitute a method of indirect characterization. And most of Shakespeare's characterization thus is based on indirect characterization. This means that Shakespeare used Soliloquies in his plays in representing this method of indirect characterization. For example, in order to reveal the inner thoughts and feelings of a character, Shakespeare instead of describing them with his own language, letting the characters to reveal themselves through the use of his designed Soliloquies.

Therefore, no doubt, Soliloquies play a crucial role for the whole play as it's considered to be the corner stone of the plot development and constructive well-build structure which flow smoothly.

2-6 Soliloquy as a Dramatic Technique of Characterization

Soliloquy is in fact a method of characterization and especially of indirect characterization. This means that there are two types of characterization in literature, which are direct characterization and indirect characterization. The direct characterization is when a playwright in presenting his story reveal the characters' thoughts and feelings through a vivid description according to what the playwright deems necessary and appropriate.

It's always the responsibility of the playwright to present and describes whatever way he sees practicable and striking to the readers and the audience. Thus, the direct characterization stands in parallel with the phrase "direct description" of the of the characters' thoughts and feelings which is differ from the indirect characterization method.

On the other hand, the indirect characterization is when the a playwright in presenting his story reveal the characters thoughts and ,feelings through the characters own self; that is to say through the Soliloquies as they are designed according to what the playwright sees necessary and effective for the story.

This latter above was exemplified in Hamlet play, when Shakespeare lets his characters to reveal their inner thoughts and emotions through the use Soliloquies. Thus, Soliloquies considered to be a dramatic technique of characterization which is itself a way of indirect characterization.

Moreover, Soliloquies as it's a dramatic technique, it's considered to be the basis of better characterization which itself considered an important literary element together with several literary elements in the field of literature. Thus, apart from developing the characterization, Soliloquies also help and facilitates the themes progress via building a well-arranged themes and better organized plot structure.

Finally, it's to be highlighted that it's the Soliloquies that make the characters are understandable with their sharing of information and the secret inner thoughts with their audience, without which the characters remain as not characters and this in turn reflect on the entire play plot process which need some clues to help in understanding the complex characters like Hamlet the Protagonist.

2-7 Between Soliloquy and the Audience

Since Soliloquy is a very important device the playwrights used in their plays, this device is always necessary by the true sense of the meaning. In order for the story's plot develops and progressed, there are certain prerequisite conditions to

be fulfilled, that is the link between the character as the soliloquizer and the audience.

In this regard, there is always relation and connection between these two communicators, the sender of the information represented in the character who speaks on one hand, and the receiver of the information which represent the audience on the other. This idea is also reflect that there should be direct continuous communication between these two pillars so that plot structure in constructed in a way that effective and understandable.

For example in order for the character to reveal his or her inner thought and feeling, he/she must share these thoughts and feelings with the audience, so that the audience reveal these thoughts and feelings through the sharing of information which represent a bridge between these two ends, the speaker as soliloquizer and the audience.

Therefore, if there is no share of information and ideas between these two ends, or what is to say between the speaker and the audience, there would be no understanding for the whole plot structure as well as for the character's thoughts and feeling, and thus there would be no characterization at all.

Therefore, there is often relation between the Soliloquies and the audience who listen to them, and it's these soliloquies that make the story of greater impact and influence towards the readers and the audience a matter which this bridge or relation is a must for the development of both the plot and the themes of the whole story.

2-8 Shakespeare & the technique of Soliloquies

Shakespeare as a playwright is known for his in depth understanding of human nature that of varied feelings, emotion, and sympathy both negatively and

positively. In this regard, in Shakespeare's play Hamlet, the title character Hamlet has seven key Soliloquies which explains his crisis throughout the play.

Shakespeare also known as a man who has his characters speak in Soliloquies. Thus, the technique of soliloquies are relevant in any play commonly and to the Hamlet play specifically. This is because they allow the reader to follow the progress of the story as the case in Hamlet spiritual crisis. The Soliloquies are given to the characters to reveal their complex trait and characteristic in order to bring out the secret feelings and future plans that cannot be shared with the other characters (Al-Ogaili, 2012).

Therefore, in the tragedy of Hamlet, the majority of soliloquies are given to the protagonist Hamlet who on his part reflect these soliloquies via displaying them as emotion and ideas and share them with the audience.

Shakespeare as a playwright used soliloquies frequently in his plays. For instance he used them in previous plays such as Julius Caesar, Othello, Romeo and Jolliet, and finally in his play under study Hamlet. This recurrence use of Soliloquies, clearly speaking is not a matter of sudden, rather it's a technique which excelled by some brilliant playwrights of the world which Shakespeare is one of them.

Thus, Shakespeare mastered this technique which is very necessary for the development of the story effectively and, functionally, and to give his readers and audience the work he desired and the way wanted. And no doubt Shakespeare's works were all perceived to be as effective with the true sense of the meaning. And the previous records of appreciation and an acknowledgement that his literary works received is a matter worth to be mentioned.

2-9 Soliloquies and the Plot Structure in Hamlet

In Shakespeare's Hamlet, soliloquies are vital for the construction of the plot structure. Because every story should have a well-constructed plot which is arranged in sequence in order for the story tells a coherent series of related events. This means that if the events are not well-organized and related to each other, there would be no plot as it called, and thus effect the readers and the audience understanding of the plot progression in which part the work is not appreciated and valued by the readers.

Therefore, soliloquies are very important for the development of the plot structure as a whole. For example, in Shakespeare's play Hamlet, the first initial events that displayed by the protagonist Hamlet are key in revealing some hidden information such as Hamlet's death and his mother quick remarriage. Through these soliloquies Hamlet informs the reader and the audience that his father is dead and his mother is marriage to his own uncle who is accused of murdering the late king, Hamlet's father. These events considered to be of vital importance as they are the starter and the opener of the first events that begin.

Therefore, without the use of soliloquies, the audience do not come to understand why Hamlet the Prince wanted to take revenge. It's this soliloquy that discovers Hamlet emotions and feelings which call for sympathy. And it's this first soliloquy that open up and start building the plot pyramid and thus the plot structure start to move on in bringing about the series of the related events passing by the rising events , climax and then to the resolution.

Furthermore, in Hamlet play also the structural designed of the events are so related in the sense that as if they are held together. For instance after the initials events in which Hamlet reveals his father death and the quick marriage of his mother, the story goes a head in display the following events and the lifting scale goes up by the development of the next related towards the rising events. These rising events are soliloquized when Hamlet was told by his father's ghost asking him to avenge his murderous.

Moreover, the act of taking revenge itself is the first impression that the reader and the audience get the emotional trigger sense which make them in a state of suspense. Thus ,most of Shakespeare Hamlet plot development is carried out through the carefully designed of series of soliloquies ,without which the play lack a very essential part of its structural development as well as loses a concrete build of series of related events.

Furthermore, in Shakespeare Hamlet, soliloquies are the basis of the Hamlet construction. With these soliloquies Shakespeare goes further to show and explain all the events as they are related to each other in order until the point of climax is reached.

Shakespeare is cleverly displayed his plot structure's climax point via incorporating a play-within-a play technique which is part of the plot development process. This technique which Shakespeare incorporated enhances the plot and the theme as a means of other literary technique. It's after this play-within-play Hamlet comes to the full sense that his father was murdered by his own uncle Claudius. Because with this trick of a play –within-a play Hamlet able to catch his uncle's heart consciously. While the play is being performed by group of actors imitating the killing of the king, Claudius who was present rashly leaves the place triggered by his guilty heart.

2-10 Monologue

The word monologue is derived from Greek monos which means “a lone”, solitary , and logos which means “speech “in which both are taken together as one word that form the word “Monologue”. This device is usually presented by a single character to express his or her mental thoughts aloud and also occasionally also directly addresses another character or the audience (Wikipedia).

Monologues are common in many series of dramatic media such as plays, films...etc. as well as in non-dramatic media such as poetry. Monologue also share much commonly with several other literary devices including Soliloquies and an aside, but there are distinction between each of these devices.

Monologues thus are similar to poems, epiphanies, and other in the sense that they involve one “voice” speaking, but there are differences between them. For instance , a soliloquy involves a character relating her thoughts and feelings to him/her self and to the audience without addressing any of the other character .on the other hand, a side differ from each of these ;not only in length ,but also in the sense that an asides are not heard by other characters (Wikipedia).

Monologues thus are types. They are either interior monologues which involve a character externalizing his or her thoughts to the audience so that the audience can witness experiences or it could be entirely internal .in addition to this ,monologues can be divided into sort of active or narrative monologue.in the active monologue a character is using his speech to achieve a clear goal and in the narrative monologue it involves a character telling a story and can only be identified by the fact that they are in the past tense (Wikipedia).

2-11 Dialogue

Dialogue and sometimes spelled dialog in American English is written or spoken conversation exchange between two or more people, and it's a literary and theatrical form that depicts such an exchange(Wikipedia).As its narrative device, it's mainly linked in the west with Socratic dialogue as that developed by Plato. The first author who used the term is Plato, whose works are closely associated with the art of dialecticafter which Latin took over the word as Dialogue.

Following Plato, the Dialogue became a major literary genre in antiquity, and several works both in Latin and in Greek were written in the same way. The use of dialogue is prevalent in fiction, but this technique can also be found in poetry, nonfiction, films, and drama. The dialogue thus has several purposes, such as advances the plot of a narrative, and reveal the characters that they cannot be understood otherwise.

Further, it presents as an exposition of the background or the past events and create the tone of a narrative. It usually can also be seen in the modern literary works, where it reflect the personalities of the characters, create a conflict, and move the story forward . Moreover, dialogues make a literary work interesting and a live, and gives enjoyable experiences to us (literary devices).

2-12 Conclusion

Soliloquy as defined above constitutes one of the effective dramatic technique playwrights used in their different plays. What is necessary and important in this part of the research is that a clear definition of the term Soliloquy was presented as well as in the body of the research which attributed the origin of the term as of Latin, which means “I speak to myself should”.

As said above that there are many playwrights used this technique, in this part Shakespeare as one of the said playwrights vividly used this technique in most of his plays such as Julius Caesar, Othello, Romeo and Juliet, and finally in the play under study Hamlet. Hamlet is considered one of the renowned plays in the English literature and many had appreciated the masterfulness of Shakespeare in preparing this carefully selected dramatic story with his use of varied literary techniques that all worked together to design Hamlet as a play.

Soliloquies are in fact very important literary technique used. The importance of soliloquies is that they help in developing the plot structure as well as help the readers and the audience to discover some hidden inner thoughts and feelings of the characters. Soliloquies are thus vital in the drama and especially in Hamlet, when Shakespeare present his method of characterization through the use of soliloquies.

There is always relation between the speaker as the soliloquizer and the audience who watches the drama. In order for the audience to understand the type of characters and the method of characterization that are presented, the characters should share with the use of soliloquies their hidden thoughts and feeling without which they remain clueless. Thus, Shakespeare is a man of soliloquies. This is due to the fact of his recurrence usage of soliloquies in most of his plays. Therefore, Soliloquies are very important for the plot structure and without them there would be no progress of related events that build the plot pyramid.

Literature Review

2.13 Literature Review

In this part, the researcher will provide literature reviews for two previous studies carried out by others in respect to the researcher's study in question. One of these studies came under the title of **“Soliloquies in Hamlet: Necessary or Unnecessary in the Context of the play”** prepared by Alam who is current Assistant Professor at Prime University and E-Assistant, Professor & Head, Cambrian College, Darul Ahsan University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

In his study Alam explains that there are varied definitions of soliloquy as he quoted from Wikipedia:

*“A soliloquy (A **soliloquy** (from Latin solo "to oneself" + loquor "I talk") is a device often used in drama when a character speaks to himself or herself, relating thoughts and feelings, thereby also sharing them with the audience, giving off the illusion of being a series of unspoken reflections”.*

Also according to Alam, (2005) as quoted from Cudon, (1998) defines “soliloquy” as a “speech”, often of some length, in which a character, alone on the stage, expresses his thoughts and feelings”

In relation to this Alam as quoted from Alex Newell, (1991) gives us in depth definition of soliloquy based on trustworthy highlighting that soliloquy give the audience a clear knowledge window in understanding the character:

“Sometimes a soliloquy reveals subconscious mental conflict in the context of the language of the soliloquist, conveying aspects of the character hidden from himself...it’s the periodic revelation of a character’s mind in soliloquy that give a sense in encountering the character’s truest self”

From the above definition there are almost similar views as to the term soliloquy and its importance as a dramatic technique. It’s to be noted that this technique is of high importance or at least it’s necessary in the drama circle, especially for Hamlet as a play as used by Shakespeare.

In this context and in relation to the Soliloquy as a literary technique in advancing the plot and theme of Hamlet, Alam as quoted from W.Clemen, (1987) stressed on the necessity of Soliloquy as literary device in making the audience understand the innermost thoughts and feelings of the complex character such as Hamlet the Prince. This means it’s the only way which a playwright able to design his characterization method.

Soliloquies are “necessary”, especially for Hamlet, who “has put on a mask (the antic ‘disposition’ and is playing a part” to everyone, expecting perhaps Horatio. The soliloquy is the only way in which he can, and need to, “break out of this unnatural situation and...speak his mind. We share both the relief that he experiences in solitude and the need that he feels to watch his tongue in company”. In addition to without soliloquies we would scarcely know anything of hamlet’s self-accusation... [They] make us aware of inner conflicts”.

The above passage share the very idea of the relation between the reader and character relationship as they are interrelated, in which the reader need to know the soliloquies so that to know the inner thoughts and feeling and complexity of some characters.

Lastly, in relation to the definition of soliloquy, Morner & Rauch, (1998) as quoted by Alam defines that “Soliloquy as dramatic convention in which a character in a play, alone on stage, speaks his or her thoughts aloud”. From all these above definition it almost sound that all the definition are similar in sense which mean they come to the term of agreement as to what is Soliloquy is.

In his explaining his seven Soliloquies:

Hamlet is Shakespeare most famous play among his other plays. It's also considers to be Shakespeare most controversy work which critics commented on it. The argument of the play arouses different interpretation, especially its Soliloquies which are main subject of discussion.

Shakespeare is said to be a man of soliloquies and also a man who know the nature of man. Most of his plays was carefully crafted and included this great literary device (Soliloquy) so that to make his audience of interest, and leave in them great effect and impression. In the play there are about eleven Soliloquies spoken by different characters among which seven are spoken by the main character Hamlet the prince.

Shakespeare's play main character Hamlet has seven Soliloquies spoken by him without which this character's thoughts and feelings are never understood. In this connection the first Hamlet Soliloquy is let the reader and the audience well-understand Hamlet according to the beginning of the play. The initial

events as to the plot structure is Hamlet depression and melancholy due to his father death and quick remarriage of his mother to his uncle. All these inner feelings could not be understood without the use of Soliloquies.

On the other hand Hamlet with his first Soliloquies to the audience he meant to inform them that his father is killed, his mother is remarriage, and that women are frailty. Stressing the importance of the Soliloquies in Hamlet Morin, (1992) states that “is, “essentially, a portrayal of a tortured, depressed young man who loses his way in the labyrinth of his negative thoughts”.

In addition to this Alam, (2005) as he quoted from Newell, (1991) highlight that “structurally, this Soliloquy acts as an exposition in its forthright presentation of information as to the whole plot. This was really important to the connection of the play. Shakespeare’s use of juxtaposition and contrast to enhance Hamlet feelings of contempt, disgust, and, inadequacy is important here”. This stresses the necessary of rather than unnecessary of the Soliloquy as a literacy technique in advancing theme and plot of Hamlet.

With regard to the Hamlet second Soliloquy, in which he first meet the ghost of his father informing him that he was murdered, certain thoughts and feeling revealed to the audience. Linked to this Alam further as he quoted from beastly that “through this line of soliloquies, his course of action is determined. His feelings towards his father, “poor ghost”, towards his mother, and towards his uncle are sharply indicated” .This stresses the importance of Soliloquy as technique in Hamlet a matter which goes in parallel with the research in question.

The third Soliloquy also explain the necessity (or importance of) Soliloquy as a device in understanding the plot and the theme. In this Alam,(2005) as quoted from Newell,(1991) states that “Hamlet sense of himself as coward is derived from a crude, simplistic judgment turning on whether or not he yet taken any action against the man who murdered his father-so importance of this soliloquy cannot be ignored to the whole context of the play”.

Also in Hamlet fourth Soliloquy which is revenge comes in famous “to be or not to be”. Hamlet always dramatized as hesitant. There is always sound something within Hamlet prevent him from taking action against his uncle. To be or not be is like Hamlet is going to be between catch-22. This means either he takes the action by killing his uncle or stay to meet his fate and overcome all his ills even through suicide so that he get rest or sleep as he said.

Moreover according to Alam,(2005) as quoted from Bugilani, (1995) that Hamlet’s “To be or not to be” soliloquy is “deliberation on the conflict between reason and passion”...and that the soliloquy end up and gives strong message that Hamlet seeking of revenge is in fact a noble deed and justifiable. And that without this important Soliloquy the play remained unfinished about the deed of Hamlet. A matter which stresses the importance of Hamlet Soliloquies.

Also in the Soliloquy Mousetrap which is itself a play-within a play, audience can see Hamlet as already decided to take action. From this play Hamlet came to conclusion that his uncle was guilty according his conscious which let him to leave the stage seeing the Mousetrap.

All in all, all Soliloquies spoken by Hamlet are of key importance for the development of the play. This review also highlighted their importance and connoting that they are important also in the context of advancing the plot of the play.

Also there is a second study conducted by Ogaili, an Assistant Lecturer at Kufa University touched the subject of Soliloquies as a technique, under the title of **The Significance of Soliloquies as a Literary Technique in Hamlet** in which he provided a detailed definition of the origin of the term Soliloquy elaborately. In addition to this, the study highlighted the experiences of Shakespeare as a man of literary Techniques and his celebrity in the field of drama. Moreover, the study noted on how Shakespeare is always tend to give Soliloquies to his characters as a method of characterization to the complex characters in order to show the inner thoughts and feeling of those characters.

In providing background about the term Soliloquy and its origin, Al-Ogaili, (2012) defines that “Soliloquy is a literary device according to which a character brings out the inner complex feelings by speaking to himself/herself” and that the audience supposed to hear it but no other characters”.

In terms of its origin he explains that the word Soliloquy derived from Latin words “Solus” which means a lone and “loqui” which means to speak. He also goes further to explain that Soliloquy is a long speech uttered by a single character alone on stage in which he expresses his or her thoughts and feelings, thus enable the dramatist to convey to the audience the important information about a particular character.

Also in regarding the Soliloquy as a technique and the Shakespeare’s tendency and celebrity in using them, Al-Ogaili states that “it’s believed that Shakespeare is known for his deep understanding of human nature with diverse feelings, emotion, and passions”. From this point as highlighted by him, it’s clear that

Shakespeare is famous for having his characters spoken in Soliloquies, and this technique of course is not used by Shakespeare without purpose, rather he uses them so that certain hidden traits and characteristics of some complex characters are discovered, without which such characters' thoughts and feelings remain undiscovered.

Towards this look, Al-Ogaili through careful analysis of the Hamlet Soliloquies, traces the spiritual crisis that Hamlet underwent as well as any who read the play in terms of understanding it. Thus the review focuses also on the seven important Soliloquies which are relevant as they allow the reader to follow the progression of Hamlet inner thoughts and feelings. It's these Soliloquies that play the pivotal role in revealing Hamlet psychological state.

Therefore, as explained and connoted by Al-Ogaili that the key to understanding Hamlet is in his seven Soliloquies according to the explanation below:

Firstly, Hamlet first Soliloquy tells that he is angry and upset from two things, his father's death and quick remarriage of his mother to his uncle after the death. These events which Hamlet reveals through Soliloquy are very proof that Soliloquies are important for the story as well as for the construction of the plot.

Hamlet Soliloquies are well related to each other, and in this way the following Soliloquy is linked to the proceeding in way of chain. This fact stresses that the plot development is constructed in sequence based on the rising of the events. In this connection, Hamlet through a Soliloquy reveals his thoughts when he meets the ghost of his mother telling him that he was murdered by his own brother, Claudius who is uncle of him. This means that in the beginning of the events, the audience does not know that who killed the murdered king, and it's Hamlet Soliloquy that discover this secret as who is murderer. This is also clear indication that Soliloquies are key in understanding the hidden secrets of thoughts that a character reveal to his audience.

Furthermore, what reveals Hamlet's hesitation in the events followed this is his Soliloquy when he says "Now I am alone" O, "what a rogue and peasant slave am". This means that he himself reveals that he is hesitant of taking action as commanded by his ghost father, and in such a way he discovers to the audience the progress of the story plot.

When Hamlet got into dilemma after deciding to be or not be, the audience come to know Hamlet in really in big dilemma by the way he expresses his thoughts a loud. The audience discovers that Hamlet is in fact in a state seemed to be as catch-22, which means he has to choose of one of the either two sore route. Either he has to be in which takes prompt action by overcoming all obstacle, or stays with the bad thoughts that make him suffer in agony.

In a nutshell, all the other following Hamlet Soliloquies discover something to the audience, and on its part the audience comes to understand the progress of the events in such a way as to the building of the plot.

In his conclusion, Al-Ogaili sums up that there is more than what the eyes can see, and that Shakespeare Hamlet while chiefly is a play of revenge as seen by others as he put it, it goes far more than this simple theme, and focuses on Hamlet's personality itself as for as his thoughtful nature and psychological state of mind.

Also Al-Ogaili further explains that Hamlet does not in fact pursue his revenge against his father's murderer as he driven to this act by the events happening around him throughout the play, and that when he kills Claudius and Laertes, it happened accidentally because he already come to have a poisoned sword, and not because he planned to do that.

Finally, Al-Ogaili concludes his study by a acknowledging that the Soliloquy is an essential means in the play of Hamlet, and that it brings the audience into character's mind as well as gives the readers the reflection of the most

important thoughts and emotions of the characters. In addition to this he states that each Soliloquy shows a different side of Hamlet's psyche, and that without these Soliloquies, the play would lose its meaning.

There is a third literature Review which presented in this part came under the title of **“Sincerity in Soliloquy: The unraveling of Hamlet's Murderous Identity”** by Jess Domanico explained how the soliloquies worked together in giving the play a meaning and understanding. In this regard he states that Hamlet's own struggles with identity are perhaps the most remarkable to readers, audiences, actors, and even the characters themselves.

He further states that Hamlet's initial role as stepson of Claudius demonstrates the insincerity, and this exchange of role is one of the driving forces within the play proof the sincerity of Hamlet in each of his Soliloquies, a matter which indicates the importance of soliloquies in unraveling this concern.

Domanico, (2010) goes further to states that the altercation between Hamlet and the queen in act one, scene two prepares the audience for the true investigation of each Soliloquy, and that the audience or readers hold benefit from the characters such a Claudius and Gertrude, as well as audience and readers know when Hamlet is acting and when he is sincere is to be known by his Soliloquies which stresses the importance and significance of Soliloquies in understanding inner thoughts and interpret the feelings.

In addition to what said above this study explains that the first glimpse of Hamlet's true nature is given when he is his own genuine audience overhearing himself think-Soliloquizing; and that through his cleaver Soliloquies reveal Hamlet's progression in the direction of his ultimate identity as a murderer.

Moreover and finally Domanico, (2010) highlights that Shakespeare's differentiation between the way Hamlet seems and truly is, as well as through

using Soliloquies. Leads his audiences to the tragic conclusion of the play. This fact justify the working mechanism of Soliloquies as literary technique in enhancing the theme and plot of Hamlet besides revealing the inner feelings of the characters.

Researcher's Discussion and analysis of the literature review points:

In this part of the research the researcher will provide his own point of views as compared to the previous literature reviews. In this connection, the researcher will follow respectively all the reviews presented and highlighted. It's to be noted that alphabetical letters would be given to mark which analysis align with other orderly.

(A) In its final conclusion the first review highlighted a couple of different views as to the idea of Soliloquies. These different opinions about Hamlet Soliloquies are that some critics argue that the speech "To be or not to be" is not meant to be taken as Soliloquy at all; rather it's a further act of feigned madness and melancholia directed towards Ophelia.

Also it stated that some critics argue that the king's first Soliloquy is not exactly a Soliloquy, and that it's an aside, because the king is not alone on the stage during that time, and because Polonius suppose not to hear what the king says. Finally the review concludes that Soliloquies are key in understanding Hamlet and that without them no one can understand the Hamlet.

The study provides in depth analysis of how the main character's thoughts and inner feelings are understood through analyzing Hamlet's key Soliloquies which

are the cornerstone for understanding Hamlet as a play as well as how Soliloquies advancing the plot and the theme of story. Of course the importance of the Soliloquies were not presented directly by calling it important ,but several connotation that implies the importance were highlighted in the study paper such as “Soliloquies are necessary” “Soliloquies allow better understanding of the play” “.The first Soliloquy is of course the first glimpse the audience understand Hamlet as a character and so on.

Finally in this part and concerning Alam’s Study of the necessary of Soliloquies in Hamlet, the researcher does stand hand in hand with what the study has stated above. Firstly, in terms of defining the term, its rationale to say the definition above is of no doubt of no debate as Soliloquy is simply a speech which uttered by a single character on stage alone to reveal some thoughts and feelings so that to share with the audience.

As to the necessary or unnecessary which are parallel to important or unimportant, the researcher strongly stands with Alam justification of the necessary of Soliloquies in the context of the play. Alam in justifying Soliloquy as a necessary literary technique he explained above that “Soliloquies are “necessary”, especially for Hamlet” is really a true statement and to the point, and how but if Soliloquies were not used in Hamlet; how readers and audience come to understand the inner thoughts and feelings of the play as well as to understand Hamlet psychological state.

In addition to the above ,Alam in agreeing with the researcher has put forward in his highlight that what condition the case might be if Soliloquies were not used by saying that “without soliloquies we would scarcely know anything of hamlet’s self-accusation... they make us aware of inner conflicts”. Therefore both Alam and the researcher are in the same direction concerning the importance of Soliloquies in Hamlet as a play.

Also what make Soliloquies such so important is that they work to enhance the development of the plot and theme of the story. From this point, Soliloquies are not only revealing the inner thoughts and feeling of characters, rather they have other functions as to the whole construction of the plot and theme alike. This clear as highlighted by Alam in which he says “structurally, this Soliloquy acts as an exposition in its forthright presentation of information as to the whole plot”. From this point it’s clear that Soliloquies function is more than just revealing thoughts, but also has something to do with the theme and plot of the story.

The researcher in this regard also agrees with Alam as to the importance of Soliloquies in developing other elements of the play such as theme and the plot. This is because the plot pyramid structure is fit in Hamlet play which starts from initial events, rising actions, and climax on one side, and falling actions and resolution or denouement on the other side. This structure is constructed using these very Soliloquies. Therefore, both the researcher and Alam are of similar stand as to the necessary of Soliloquy in Hamlets’ play.

Concerning this part as to the different views that provided by Alam in respect to whether a certain Soliloquy is a Soliloquy or not, the researcher would not stand with the view that some critics argue that the speech “To be or not to be” is not meant to be taken as Soliloquy at all; rather it’s a further act of feigned madness and melancholia directed towards Ophelia. In justifying this, to be or not to be is one of the most famous Soliloquy in Hamlet, and without this Soliloquy, the audience cannot understand that hamlet is really in a dilemma, or he has to choose of two either sore options that lies in front of him

Also in the second view that some critics argue that the king's first Soliloquy is not exactly a Soliloquy, and that it's an aside, because the king is not a lone on the stage during that time, because Polonius suppose not to hear what the king says. In this view the researcher agree with this opinion, and that the king's first Soliloquy is not Soliloquy. This justification might come true from the definition of both Soliloquy and a side. Soliloquy as defined is a speech uttered by a single character on stage and a lone .The word "a lone" might justify the researcher's point in not to stand with the viewer.

Finally as to the Alam view which concluded that Soliloquies are key in understanding Hamlet and without them no one can understand the Hamlet is of the similar view with the researcher, and this constitutes one of the main purposes of the study which is Soliloquy as a literary technique in Hamlet.

(B) Also in the second review by Al-Ogaili, it's clear that Al-Ogaili's definition of Soliloquy is no doubt similar to that provided by Alam in his defining the term and its origin. Both Al-Ogaili and Alam have come to same definition as well as to the origin of the term Soliloquy, reflect the fact which proofs the trueness of both definitions that will be taken for granted.

In the view of the statement that mentioned by Al-Ogaili, the researcher agrees with the statement that there is more than just see Hamlet as a revenge tragedy, and that the personal trait of Hamlet the protagonist need to be dismantled so that the true psyche of this character is revealed. Hamlet is a complex character, and in this sense he always hesitant when decided to kill his uncle. This because

Hamlet does not want to rush and take action, rather he wanted to discover the cause of his father's death at first, a matter which signals Hamlet maturity in the mind.

Secondly for the view that Hamlet does not in fact pursue the revenge against his father's murderer is not true and as such the researcher does not see eye to eye with this statement. This because throughout the play process, and after the mousetrap play, Hamlet fully comes to the sense that he has to fulfill his father's instructions. And what proof his uncle's guilty is the play mousetrap in which Claudius rushes and leaves the stage quickly in a guilty-like way .From this point on, Hamlet really pursued killing his own uncle and at last he kills him with his own poisoned sword.

As to Al-Ogaili conclusion in which he acknowledged the importance of Soliloquy as an essential means in the play of Hamlet, without which the play would lose its meaning is strongly true and that the researcher acknowledges with similar view as to the importance of Soliloquies in Shakespeare's Hamlet.

(C) As to the third study by Domanico in his **“Sincerity in Soliloquy: The unraveling of Hamlet's Murderous Identity”** explained that the soliloquies worked together in giving the play a meaning and understanding. In this regard he states that Hamlet's own struggles with identity are perhaps the most remarkable to readers, audiences, actors, and even the characters themselves. For this the researcher's own view is that Soliloquies are very important for Hamlet as a play, a matter which was put by Domanico in this statement in which himself highlighted the significance of this technique.

Domanico again stresses on the important of the role of Soliloquies by saying that “Hamlet’s initial role as stepson of Claudius demonstrates the insincerity, and this exchange of role is one of the driving forces within the play that proof the sincerity of Hamlet in each of his Soliloquies”. With this stress Domanico again highlight the role of Soliloquies as key in Hamlet, something which the researcher already agreed upon.

In a nutshell all provided by Domanico highlights the importance of Soliloquies in understanding the inner thoughts and feeling of a character whether this character is sincere or insincere as well as in revealing his thoughts or her thoughts.

Therefore, with these Seven Soliloquies, Hamlet the prince shares his inner feelings, thoughts, and plan for the future events. These Soliloquies are pivotal pillars of the drama and still considered some of Shakespeare’s most brilliant writings. Without reading these Seven Soliloquies, one cannot enjoy the true meaning of the amazing drama of Hamlet.

In order to reveal the thoughts and feelings, Shakespeare also employed the indirect characterization method, which is itself a very important for the play as Shakespeare is uniquely very famous playwright. The indirect characterization is when an author uses Soliloquies to display the innermost thoughts and feelings of characters. Shakespeare does not want to waste time through describing his characters’ personality to the audience. He wants the characters to display themselves through their action and through self-revelation which is an important aspect of good characterization. Shakespeare is such a person who wants the audience and readers knock their mind and discover some parts by themselves.

Thus, Hamlet is a play which designed in this way as Shakespeare wanted it, so that to give its uniqueness, interest, and enjoyment to whoever read the story. Therefore, all aspects of good dramatization was employed in Hamlet which made the play of great interest and value, and the history spoke much about this important play as mentioned in this research body.

CHAPTER THREE

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS FROM LITERARY POINT OF VIEW

3.1 Introduction

There are many types of literary techniques, some pertain to genres such as novels, fiction, and nonfiction, and others pertain to drama and plays. In this regard the focus will be given to that of drama genre because it's the core of our study in which this research is based on.

Linked to this, Shakespeare's greatest play Hamlet is one of the famous plays in which one of the dramatic technique is used. And Shakespeare as a playwright was very intellectual, and was believed to be famous for his deep understanding of human nature with diverse feelings, emotions, and passions both positive and negative involved in it.

Hamlet as a play is one of most published and played drama in the English literature as well as the most filmed play according to the Royal Shakespeare Company (a major British theatre company) in addition to those written before Hamlet in Stratford-upon-Avon since 1879 crystal, (2005). This particular trait and characteristic gave the play a high status and tops many works written by the playwright Shakespeare. Therefore, in order for Shakespeare to make his play as a masterpiece with a sense of meaning and acceptable, he incorporated a number of techniques of which one of them is of high importance in the context of reading Hamlet, without which the play loses its essence and meaning. This important literary technique is Soliloquy.

In this chapter and through tracing the play, a literary analysis of Hamlet is going to be adopted, showing what are the famous Seven Soliloquies uttered by

the protagonist of the play Hamlet, bearing in the mind that the play does not only contains seven Soliloquies, but more than that. However it meant here to focus only on the key Seven that spoken by Hamlet as they are vital in understanding and discovering the hidden secrets of Hamlet as a play, and as a character.

After reading the play, the researcher founded that Hamlet has spoken seven Soliloquies in addressing the audience and shares with them his feeling and thoughts as they are explained below:

3.2 Hamlet's Seven Key Soliloquies

3.2.1 Hamlet's First Soliloquy (Anger, frustration, and Grief).

In this first Soliloquy, Hamlet shows himself that he is very angry and upset with what happened after his father's death. What upset Hamlet and let him into melancholy are two things; first that his father had been murdered by his uncle (Claudius) then married Hamlet's Mother, queen (Gertrude) in a plan perceived to be a conspiracy between the two.

This notorious treasury of his uncle and the immorality committed against the marriage norms of the society let Hamlet in a state of deepest anger, frustration, and grief. With such Soliloquy, Hamlet expresses his deepest, innermost thoughts, connoting that the world where he lives in is unbearable. He suggests that he wants to get rid of all woes that make his mind in a state of imbalance. Furthermore, Hamlet suggests that through a suicide act he could overcome all sorrows that going on through his head. This is due to the fact that Hamlet beside his father's death and his mother's remarriage, there is also his affair

with Ophelia which was another woe that burdened a pile of cares that running through his head. This Soliloquy as its presented below, enables the readers to know how much rejection with strong terms possible the idea of quick marriage between his mother and his uncle was completely unacceptable by Hamlet and in this Hamlet says in his first Soliloquy:

*O that this too too solid flesh would melt,
Thaw, and resolve itself into a dew!
Or that the Everlasting had not fix'd
His canon 'gainst self-slaughter! O God! O God!
How weary, stale, flat, and unprofitable
Seem to me all the uses of this world!
Fie on't! O fie! 'tis an unweeded garden,
That grows to seed; things rank and gross in nature
Possess it merely. That it should come to this!
But two months dead! — nay, not so much, not two:
So excellent a king; that was, to this,
Hyperion to a satyr; so loving to my mother,
That he might not beteem the winds of heaven
Visit her face too roughly. Heaven and earth!

Must I remember? Why, she would hang on him
As if increase of appetite had grown
By what it fed on: and yet, within a month, —
Let me not think on't, — Frailty, thy name is woman! —
A little month; or ere those shoes were old
With which she followed my poor father's body
Like Niobe, all tears; — why she, even she, —*

*O God! a beast that wants discourse of reason,
Would have mourn'd longer, — married with mine uncle,
My father's brother; but no more like my father
Than I to Hercules: within a month;
Ere yet the salt of most unrighteous tears
Had left the flushing in her galled eyes,
She married: — O, most wicked speed, to post
With such dexterity to incestuous sheets!
It is not, nor it cannot come to good;
But break my heart, — for I must hold my tongue!*

From this Soliloquy, it's very clear that Hamlet's state of mind is not in right tract, and in order to reveal this, he goes to explain that he wishes that the religion does not forbid the act of suicide, so that make himself vanished and melted so as to get rid of all the woes and pains eating his soul and body.

This first Soliloquy also clearly indicates how Hamlet is completely in a state of grief frustration from his mother Gertrude, because she came with something which is considered to be abnormal in the customs and traditions of the society; (marrying very quickly after someone's death) as happened to Claudius and Gertrude. In such a way Hamlet shows strong upset from his uncle, his mother, and the world at large. He seems to hate the idea of well-being; by wishing that its better the religion allow suicide in order to does it and melted in the air.

Hamlet also further mention in his Soliloquy of how nobility's status was declined with this odd marriage. He thinks that how shameful that his mother remarriages herself so quickly, to a person who was less and inferior than his

late father, of noble superiority and state. With this Soliloquy also Hamlet shares with the audience of the upcoming events later when he delays taking action after deciding chasing and killing his uncle Claudius. And it's from this Soliloquy that the audience understand that Hamlet is a man who delays to act and pause too much.

According to the story and in the beginning, Hamlet's Uncle, Claudius and his mother, Gertrude were unaware of the fact that Hamlet's obsession was due to their cause (their quick marriage), and because of this unawareness, Claudius the king ask Gertrude the mother to chase his son Hamlet and get the fact about Hamlet's depression and grief. Firstly they believed that it might be due to his love with Ophelia, as Hamlet has an affair with her, but later it will be discovered that Hamlet even hate the idea of love and women as general. A matter which is true, when Hamlet says "women are frailty" referring generally to all sort of and specifically to his mother. He was surprised why his mother is so quickly remarried when people generally according to the customs, mourn a little longer before they are remarriage again. He (Hamlet) believed that this marriage is incestuous or rather taboo according to the culture.

3.2.2 Hamlet's Second Soliloquy (The appearance of ghost)

In act (1) scene (5) Hamlet speaks his second Soliloquy, the time when he first meet his dead father's ghost who informs him that he in fact was murdered by his own brother, Claudius(uncle of Hamlet) casting his kingdom and remarriages the widowed, Hamlet mother queen Gertrude. Once the host disappears after informing Hamlet about his father's death, he leaves in solitude, swearing taking revenge of his father's death. The below Soliloquy indicates this very fact:

*O all you host of heaven! O earth! what else?
 And shall I couple hell? O, fie! — Hold, my heart;
 And you, my sinews, grow not instant old,
 But bear me stiffly up. — Remember thee!
 Ay, thou poor ghost, while memory holds a seat
 In this distracted globe. Remember thee!
 Yea, from the table of my memory
 I'll wipe away all trivial fond records,
 All saws of books, all forms, all pressures past,
 That youth and observation copied there;
 And thy commandment all alone shall live
 Within the book and volume of my brain,
 Unmix'd with baser matter: yes, by heaven! —
 O most pernicious woman!
 O villain, villain, smiling, damned villain!
 My tables, — meet it is I set it down,
 That one may smile, and smile, and be a villain;
 At least, I am sure, it may be so in Denmark*

This second Soliloquy as stated above is of taking decision. This is because Hamlet has decided to take revenge and from now on he will erase all the trivial things from the file of his memory and depends only on the instructions and the commandments that given by the ghost, stressing that it's only this commandment that shall be in his memory and no else.

This second Soliloquy also let the audience know that Hamlet has become concrete and stick to the point of what was told by the ghost of his father, and that the audience get the foreshadow of the event and anticipation that Hamlet is going to achieve the act of revenge as he decided. Furthermore, Hamlet also

create a state of an atmosphere and mood by repeating the last words the ghost has told him in which the ghost bid the farewell, “Adieu, adieu remember me” (1, 5,118). This goodbye word is very important in the play and can be taken as strong emphasis of how the ghost does not want to be forgotten. And Hamlet on his part takes it on heart vowing not to forget him through erasing all other unimportant things and replace them with these words of commitment.

The repetition of this word also scratches the brain of the audience with the importance of this line to the structural process of the plot of the play, and from this line that the audience sit correctly if they were not well suited in the stage in order to anticipate the upcoming events later.

In addition to this, this Soliloquy also informs the audience that Hamlet is not as Hamlet they meet first before the ghost appears, and from this point on, the audience sees Hamlet as a changed Hamlet and no longer the previous Hamlet. The audience also now finds themselves as held captive in a state of suspense; a moment when someone waits eagerly for something else coming in the future, with the emotion best described as tense and aroused by the body's nerves.

In conclusion to the above, Hamlet also goes further and puts the very question of the nature of man as deceptive as he comes to know by saying that “one may smile and be a villain” in which the issue of morality and deception is questioned. Because to smile and to be a villain are two different opposed things. They are of contradictory nature as to a man must not smile and to be a villain at the same time.

3.2.3 Hamlet's Third Soliloquy (The Hesitation)

In this third Soliloquy, Hamlet speaks meanly to display faults of himself to the audience and shows that he is in a state of sorrow and sorry by putting a pile of

personal blames to his soul, as well as through pretending that he is a mad and his mind is not in a good order as indicated by the Soliloquy below:

Ay, so, God b' wi' ye!

Now I am alone.

O, what a rogue and peasant slave am I!

Is it not monstrous that this player here,

But in a fiction, in a dream of passion,

Could force his soul so to his own conceit

That from her working all his visage wan'd;

Tears in his eyes, distraction in's aspect,

A broken voice, and his whole function suiting

With forms to his conceit? And all for nothing!

For Hecuba?

What's Hecuba to him, or he to Hecuba,

That he should weep for her? What would he do,

Had he the motive and the cue for passion

That I have? He would drown the stage with tears

And cleave the general ear with horrid speech;

Make mad the guilty, and appal the free;

Confound the ignorant, and amaze, indeed,

The very faculties of eyes and ears.

Yet I,

A dull and muddy-mettled rascal, peak,

Like John-a-dreams, unpregnant of my cause,

And can say nothing; no, not for a king

Upon whose property and most dear life

A damn'd defeat was made. Am I a coward?

*Who calls me villain? breaks my pate across?
Plucks off my beard and blows it in my face?
Tweaks me by the nose? gives me the lie i' the throat
As deep as to the lungs? who does me this, ha?
'Swounds, I should take it: for it cannot be
But I am pigeon-liver'd, and lack gall
To make oppression bitter; or ere this
I should have fatted all the region kites
With this slave's offal: bloody, bawdy villain!*

This Soliloquy speaks much of a personal trait –of Hamlet as he took decision to act or take the revenge. In the previous Soliloquy which is Soliloquy 2, it's known that Hamlet had taken many vows and decisions to stick to the ghost's commandment as well as to take the revenge on behave of his father. But in this third Soliloquy Hamlet speaks of himself for the continuing failures that prevent him to take the action of revenge.

This Soliloquy also explains that Hamlet in a self-pity accuses himself as a coward Am I a coward? As he says for failing to meet the commitment, as well as the Soliloquy creates an atmosphere of sympathy due to the way Hamlet addresses himself. He used certain kind of language which of self-blaming kind, by calling himself with different negative adjectives such as rogue, peasant, salve, ass, and whore.

The above language makes the audience stand with Hamlet emotionally because he has a lot of worries running through his head as to his mother's quick marriage and his uncle's possibility of murdering his father. And there is justification that Hamlet's madness is acceptable in the context of somebody who feeling all these woes and agonies. This sense of cowardice and inaction is as a result of non commitment by Hamlet which is still not achieved.

Hamlet in this Soliloquy goes further to call himself dull and muddy-metalled rascal who has done yet nothing to overcome the grief and anger. He feels ashamed and disabled coward who can only speak with no practical action, and thus the wisdom of much talkers are less doers is exemplified. Hamlet exactly felt the sort of this kind of people who just speak, but do not act. Due to his inaction and hesitation, he goes to ease his anger by calling his uncle adjectives such as “bloody” remorseless, treacherous, lecherous, and kindles villain. All these words connate to the quality of anger that Hamlet has for his uncle the murderer.

Finally this Soliloquy describes Hamlet’s problem, and his animosity behaviour through the repeated expression of dislike and despairs as he is in a state of severe depression and upset due to the most severest two mentioned events, which are the death of his father, the murdered king and remarriage of his mother Gertrude to the new king who is Hamlet own uncle.

The important of this Soliloquy also is that this Soliloquy explains and illustrates the innermost thoughts and feelings of Hamlet character as well as to develop the theme of the play. It’s clear that what prevents Hamlet of inaction is not the idea of cowardice; it seems it’s more than cowardice. Hamlet seems to be a man of pauses or what is to say a man who minds before steps. In this regard he often finds that when he does not act there is something behind of inaction either rationally or logically as when he does not kill his uncle when praying, he does not want his uncle to win at the end, he want to revenge with the true sense of the meaning. Because killing oneself while praying wins the match and thus not considered as act of revenge.

3.2.4 The fourth Soliloquy: (The philosophy of Revenge)

This fourth Soliloquy is considered to be one of the most important, fundamental, and celebrated Soliloquy in English literature generally. Shakespeare's '*to be or not to be, that is the question*' is still considered as a leading Soliloquy, and it's a unique in English literature, because of its philosophical nature. In this Soliloquy Hamlet seems going to the direction of at least trying to act, a matter which was delayed in the previous Soliloquies that have passed, without taking action:

*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.*

As this Soliloquy is one of the most famous one, there are lots of hidden thoughts and feelings to be discovered within this scene. In this Soliloquy Hamlet finds himself in a big dilemma- dilemma of choosing only two available alternative options, which are to proceed without hesitation and overcoming all the obstacles that lead him to pause take action, or stays with pains and woes and suffer more. In this Soliloquy its sounds that Hamlet is in a state of catch-22 where his between two options, either one is more difficult than the other.

Also this dilemma means whether one stays a live with his pains, or go on to commit the suicide-“to die to sleep” which means to die and get rest of the all pains caused by the troubles. Thus all the metaphors of this Soliloquy sounds to suggest that Hamlet’s choice is between suffering the pain of this world or taking prompt action against them.

The Soliloquy which is of revenge constitutes one of the most important Soliloquies for the entire play, because it's written with a special language, as well as reveals new hidden side of Hamlet the protagonist. Added to that, this Soliloquy shows Hamlet with much softer emotional state, once he speaks about his suffering, and listing multiple opposing matters. Therefore, it's easy to understand the importance and significance of this Soliloquy as it constitutes the structure of the whole of the play.

Also this Soliloquy gives the audience an idea of the main obstacle that comes a head - the unknown consequences after the death. The big question in this Soliloquy also is Hamlet's trial to answer for himself the questions whether he is nobler enough to take arm and die as, in defending what he sees as right and justifiable.

By comparing the sleep and dying on one hand and discussing the mortality issue, Hamlet again allow the audience and reveal to them that he is related to them, because he reveal to them that he afraid dying. Moreover, this Soliloquy ends with an important note which gives the audience a pause to consider Hamlet as going to take action as he says," be all my sin remembered". This quote informs the audience that Hamlet has already decided that taking revenge is of course a noble act.

The last few lines also describe Ophelia, as well as the audience knows that Ophelia refuses to see Hamlet and Hamlet on his part started to react madly towards her. This means that Hamlet continue to act madly as well as seek revenge. Additionally, he is aware that he will lose Ophelia, in the time when he is going to take this action of revenge. This create atmosphere and prepare the audience to be proactive for the action that Hamlet going to take in the near future.

3.2.5 The fifth Soliloquy (The Conversation)

This fifth soliloquy falls in the Act 3, Scene 2 prior to going in his mother's chambers for a conversation. Prince Hamlet's mother, Queen Gertrude, sends words to summon Hamlet into her chamber to have a talk with him. Hamlet on his part asks for a short amount of time alone, and in this short period, he delivers this soliloquy below, in which he plans out the conversation:

*Tis now the very witching time of night,
When churchyards yawn, and hell itself breathes out
Contagion to this world: now could I drink hot blood,
And do such bitter business as the day
Would quake to look on. Soft! now to my mother. —
O heart, lose not thy nature; let not ever
The soul of Nero enter this firm bosom:
Let me be cruel, not unnatural;
I will speak daggers to her, but use none;
My tongue and soul in this be hypocrites, —
How in my words somever she be shent,
To give them seals never, my soul, consent!*

This fifth Soliloquy also shows when Hamlet is about to go to his mother's chamber in response to his mother's summons, and in this very time when Polonius was escorting Prince Hamlet to Queen Gertrude's chamber, Hamlet asks for a moment alone and says that he will meet her mother in a short moment, and then in the moment alone, he delivers the above short soliloquy in which he resolves to be brutally honest with his mother but not to lose control of himself over her at any way.

Also this Soliloquy further indicates that Hamlet the Prince is in a state of better to be described as at his highest mood of wanting to take action promptly with

no hesitation as he used to hesitate in the previous session. In this moment, Hamlet best described as perceived to be in a mood also he could “drink hot blood, and do such bitter business as the day would quake to look on”. In this a state of temper in which Hamlet’s nerves seem at their arousal, he could even kill his mother who he considered as incest, and who came with incestuous deal, but he would not do that as he described “Let me be cruel, not unnatural.”

In addition to the above, this Soliloquy concentrates on the upcoming conversation between Hamlet and his mother, Queen Gertrude. In the conversation Hamlet goes further and vows to treat his mother harshly, but also he would refrain from doing her any harm, saying, “I will speak daggers to her, but use none.” A matter which indicate this very idea of what kind of clear mind Hamlet has in distinguishing things.

3.2.6 The Sixth Soliloquy (The Mousetrap)

This sixth Soliloquy which falls in n Act 3, Scene 3 considered to be one of the best technique used by Shakespeare as a playwright. It’s considered the already important mentioned a play-within-a play technique which Shakespeare incorporated in this play so as to give Hamlet the play a strong meaning and enhancement.

*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.
O, this is hire and salary, not revenge.*

*He took my father grossly, full of bread -
 With all his crimes broad blown, as flush as May.
 And how his audit stands, who knows save heaven?
 But in our circumstance and course of thought,
 'Tis heavy with him, and am I, then, revenged;
 To take him in the purging of his soul,
 When he is fit and seasoned for his passage?
 No.
 Up, sword, and know thou a more horrid hent:
 When he is drunk asleep or in his rage;
 Or in the incestuous pleasure of his bed;
 At gaming, swearing or about some act
 That has no relish of salvation in it.
 Then trip him, that his heels may kick at heaven,
 And that his soul may be as damned and black
 As hell, whereto it goes. My mother stays,
 This physic but prolongs thy sickly days.*

This mousetrap Soliloquy better be described as a mouse- catching plan, or the guilty catching plan, which Hamlet the Prince plans carefully in order to know whether his uncle is guilty or not in murdering his father, the late king. Hamlet plans a play-within-a play in a way which cleverly detects the wrongdoer, specifically his uncle Claudius.

In this plan ,Hamlet secretly make use of a group of actors who touring as performers during the same time to come and act a play which resemble and shows the way how his father was murdered, with Claudius himself present . On the stage while the performers doing the act, and when they reach at the

point of murdering, Claudius, Hamlet's uncle rushes surprisingly and leaves the stage as he is weakened by his conscious heart as a guilty man, such as when there is something on one's self, he will be aroused by that thing.

After Claudius leaves the stage as a result of his guilt, Hamlet, reasonably comes to know that it's his uncle who murdered his father, and from that time Hamlet with hundred percent sureness now knew the murderer, but what remained is the only paying the prize of that notorious act committed by his uncle. From now on the audience together with Hamlet chase the king Claudius as Hamlet now took concrete decision that killing his uncle is something a must which is not forgivable.

In this Soliloquy, Hamlet has lot of chances to kill his uncle, but he does not proceed to do that in same occasion. For example Hamlet while going to his mother's closet, he finds King Claudius praying. Once he draws his sword to kill him, he refrain himself from doing that when a thought arises in his mind that by killing the murderer King, while in the act of praying and seeking forgiveness for his sins, he will send him directly to Heaven instead of hell, and this, according to Hamlet, will not be revenge with the full sense.

Hamlet's interpretation of this idea is that since he is the only son that seeking to seek revenge for his father's murder, he never condone by not proofing the true act of revenge with its clear meaning. Hamlet does not want to do any other act, but the revenge with its complete elements. Therefore, he decided not to kill his uncle during when he was praying. He skips the chance intentionally and purposefully, and wait for other chance to kill the King when he is "drunk, asleep, or in his rage, or in the incestuous pleasure of his bed, at gaming, swearing or about some act that has no relish of salvation in it."

Finally, in this way when the King Claudius killed, he will have to pay for his sins and wrongdoing, and will be totally responsible for his crimes and that will justify the act of revenge as well as the promise the Prince Hamlet decided to fulfil for his dead father.

3.2.7 Hamlet's Seventh Soliloquy (The last)

This Soliloquy which considers the last Soliloquy spoken by Hamlet fall in the act 4 scene 4. This scene start when Prince Hamlet on his way to England meet Fortinbras with army marching through Denmark, to capture a small piece of land. When Hamlet speaks to a Norwegian captain, he tells him that the piece of land is worth nothing but the name. And this little piece of revelation induces Hamlet upon his inability to execute his father's revenge, and thus Hamlet delivers the below Soliloquy which is the last:

*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 godlike 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, quartered, 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 it. 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 puffed,
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 killed, a mother stained,
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!*

In this last Soliloquy which Hamlet reveals to the audience that if a man has no purpose, he is not better than a beast, **a man is not better than a beast if he is satisfied only with sleeping and feeding himself. God gave reason to human beings so that they may make use of them.** Therefore, he must use his rendezvous with Fortinbras for the revenge. He believes that God created the man for great things, as well as tells the audience that he is no longer going to sit there anymore, when his father's commandments is not met.

In addition to this, in this Soliloquy also Prince Hamlet contemplates the meaning of mortality, and how the death can come so quickly at any time, a matter which is unpredictable. At the end of this Soliloquy, Hamlet vows, as he soliloquizes **“Oh, from this time forth/ my thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth!”** This soliloquy puts emphasis on the fact that Hamlet is urging himself to take revenge, but there is natural fault that always prevents him from fulfilling his purpose.

Summary of the Outcome of the Hamlet Seven Soliloquies

In analyzing Hamlet key seven Soliloquies and the outcome of them, it's to be noted that these Soliloquies are important to the play as they make the main character understandable. Hamlet Soliloquies reveal much about himself as a character and as a protagonist. They reveal that Hamlet as virtuous, in spite of his indecisiveness. These characteristics are explored through his various ways of insulting himself for not taking action as he believed, and his constant need of reassure himself before taking any action.

Thus, in the first Hamlet Soliloquy it's mainly used to explain how he was so melancholic and upset, a matter which reflects basically first Soliloquy in which Hamlet is displayed as reluctant to act to correct what he thinks wrong. Hamlet appears to be very depressed and upset due to the loss of his father and his mother's marriage to his Uncle Claudius.

Also Hamlet's second Soliloquy goes further to reveal other thoughts such as presenting Hamlet with new and important tasks that he was entrusted to achieve. But also this Soliloquy continues to reveal his indecisiveness, though he is obliged to clear away all the other minor thoughts and only remains with the thoughts that are enriched by his ghost father. Thus this Soliloquy finally reveals Hamlet as psychologically courageous somewhat to proceed to act.

In the third Soliloquy it goes further to explain clearly of Hamlet lack of confidence ,and that it displays also the degree of courageous inside him towards murdering Claudius ,and blaming himself that he has not taken action yet. Despite the desire of taking revenge, he seems cannot overcome the moral consequences of murder, a matter which underline the very fact of his virtuous.

In addition to the above, the fourth Soliloquy reveals that Hamlet can be indecisive, and this supported by the quote “To be or not to be: that is the question”. And it also show that he is a man of reason as he question and then continues to look for answers. As to the Fifth Soliloquy, it present Hamlet as not genuine in which he says “My tongue and soul in this will be hypocrites”. He plans and speak at the same time yet feel different in his heart internally. This Soliloquy reveal moreover the hidden thoughts of Hamlet character.

As to the sixth Soliloquy it play a very important role as it touch the concept of identity in which Hamlet says that How such a villain kills a noble man and in such occasion, a matter which moves Hamlet to vow to do the same as did to his father and send the killers soul to the heaven.

The last Seventh Soliloquy present Hamlet as frustrated and tired after many commitments that he took to take the revenge. This because yet he has not taken any action to avenge his father’s murder. In this regard Hamlet explain this by saying “How stand I then, that have a father killed, a mother stained, excitement of my reason and blood, and let all sleep”.

In a nutshell, all the Seven Soliloquies played a very important role together to complete the task of revealing the most inner thoughts and feeling of Hamlet, and which are all worth to be named as necessary and key in understanding Hamlet as a play and a character.

3-3 Shakespeare and the art of using Soliloquies

Shakespeare as a famous playwright in Literature often described as having his characters speak in soliloquies during the course of his plays. This is very clear in at least both Hamlet and Macbeth as they are two celebrated known Shakespeare plays in the field of English Literature. Since Soliloquies are considered to be a method of indirect characterization, they are very essential to the plot of a story through the progress of a play. This is because they provide the opportunity to tell the audience specific characters' thoughts and feelings which are presumed to be hidden and which need to be discovered by the characters themselves.

As the Seven Soliloquies spoken by Prince Hamlet constitute the corner stone of the play, an illustration would be drawn as to how Shakespeare mastered this very technique of indirect characterization through Soliloquies. Each Soliloquy from these seven played as a list of chains together to complete the plot structure starting from the initial events, rising actions, climax, falling action, and lastly the resolution.

In this regard, the first Soliloquy which Hamlet delivers gives the audience their first hints of him as a character, as well as tells of his father's death, and then his mother's quick remarriage to his uncle Claudius a matter which Hamlet considers as incestuous according to the customs and tradition. These first events according to the plot structure pyramid constitute the initial events as one of the literary elements.

After the initial events and in a way of tied chains, Shakespeare goes forward to progress the plot development through the second Soliloquy in which Hamlet meets the ghost of his dead father, and receives bad information from him. In this

scene, the ghost reveals that Prince Hamlet's father is murdered by his own brother who is the uncle of prince Hamlet.

This Soliloquy reveal further the very idea that Hamlet after hearing the bad news of his father's death, he is going to erase all the other trivial things, and only remains with the commitment that given by the ghost that he must seek revenge from someone who has murdered his father and remarriages his widowed queen, Gertrude. All these events come after Hamlet receives the first news of his father death, but up to that time he does not know that his father is murdered by his own brother who is uncle of him, until later discovered to him by the ghost of his father himself.

The second Soliloquy moves the plot structure pyramid upwards as it's lifting up to the climax which is the highest point of the pyramid. Also, its Shakespeare technique through Hamlet that reveal all these Hamlet inner thoughts and feelings and through employing the method of indirect characterization and through Soliloquies which are themselves the very same method in question.

Also there are many indirect characterization used by Shakespeare so that his play is of meaningful and coherent context in terms of plot and theme building. In this respect Shakespeare gives more hints to his character Hamlet so that he himself shares with audience what he has for them. Shakespeare uses this emphasis when he entrust his ghost character with repeating the phrase "Adieu, adieu, remember me". This repeated phrase is used for emphasis so that what has been told to Hamlet by the ghost is something important and which prince Hamlet should take seriously as an instruction from the ghost.

Also, in building the plot structure through the mastering of indirect characterization, Shakespeare still puts a brick after a brick in order to construct his required pyramid. He makes his Hamlet further reveal himself to the

audience by means of Soliloquy. In this time, Hamlet seems to be seen alone on the stage, and the audience gather some information about Hamlet's character.

In this connection, Hamlet in this time seems to be mad, though he pretends not so. This soliloquy also creates emotional atmosphere because of the way Hamlet speak about himself; he uses tough language and gives some adjectives to himself such as rogue, peasant slave, ass, and whore. This language makes the audience sympathize with Hamlet because he has a lot to woes and agonies about his mother's quick remarriage and his uncle's possible murdering of his father.

In relation to this and as part of plot construction, Shakespeare also again in the position of still going up to the direction of the story's climax. Shakespeare cleverly has his character Hamlet speaks directly to the audience, during his famous "To be or not to be" .in this time the events are very important for the context of the play, because it's written with a masterful language that Shakespeare is used of, as well as reveals other side of Hamlet.

Shakespeare in addition to the above nicely draws a method of characterization and reveals the inner feeling of his character Hamlet by way of incorporating a softer speech in the soul of Prince Hamlet. This is clear when Hamlet shows a softer emotional hints when he speaks about his suffering and troubles.

And in this time also that Hamlet is subject to between two options either is sorer than the other to take, in the course of the life. This means that either he (be) which connote to overcoming all indecision and take the action or (not to be) in which he stays and bears the soreness of the woes and pains. Worth to be mentioned is that this Soliloquy moreover creates atmosphere for the audience and prepares them for the actions that Hamlet will take in the events to follow.

3-4 Soliloquies and the Revealing of Thoughts and Feelings

Concerning the soliloquies and especially of Hamlet the Prince in revealing his Changing thoughts and Moods throughout the play, we always come to know that the play Hamlet is basically about life and death. They see this through the character of Prince Hamlet, the protagonist. Hamlet's character is not looked from one angle as it's understood. There are many angles to his personality which need to be revealed cleverly.

We can tell this by the way Hamlet's mood varies throughout the play. It's only in these seven soliloquies that Hamlet reveals his true self and personality without which no one knows anything about this mysterious important character. And in such a way that audience begins to develop a better understanding of his complex character.

A soliloquy is a speech in which a character (in this case Hamlet) reveals to the audience his thoughts and feelings which he is unable to express to other characters in the play. In other words, soliloquies give revelation to Hamlet's thoughts and feeling. This is why soliloquies are so important, because a character can express his most inner thoughts and feeling and share them with audience together. Hamlet's seven mentioned Soliloquies are key and considered to be a backbone for the play. They guide the readers across Hamlet's mind at different points and direction in the play.

Shakespeare's Hamlet was well-designed both in terms of its Soliloquies or their plot and theme structure. Shakespeare who is the Master of Arts know how to create and move our interest and awaken our mood with many techniques he incorporated in his play Hamlet. Therefore, he carefully chose his Soliloquies in order to build a well-balanced chained plot to enhance the theme and the plot of Hamlet. By tracing all the soliloquies together, it's clear that they have direct

effect upon building the plot and the themes of the play in a way that all seem related to each other.

Shakespeare went to develop the plot of his "revenge" in a normal way. The Act I is in fact expository in nature, which only introduces the main characters and the conflict. In acts 2, 3, and 5 they shows the rising action of the plot as the conflict develops, specifically in Hamlet's mind. The following acts contains the climax, a short period of falling action, and lastly denouement, resolution, or the conclusion, whenever Fortinbras takes control of Denmark to bring order to the country once again.

Shakespeare's Soliloquies further have a direct link to the development of the plot structure according to the Aristotle which is exposition, rising action, crisis, climax, falling action, and denouement. With respect to the first element the initial events, the play found to be gradually progresses, and some information are gathered which constitute the basic of the play opening pages such as when Hamlet hear the news of his father's death.

Then the rising action which is after the exposition progresses slowly until the time when Hamlet informed by his ghost father that his father was murdered by his own brother who is uncle of him is comes. It's from this point that things begin to get towards complication. Following the rising action the plot progresses itself towards the crisis, a time when Hamlet fail to kill his uncle once and for more time as referring the crisis again.

Lastly, Shakespeare's Hamlet plot comes to the point of resolution which is the last point of the plot pyramid structure in which the matter is settled. In this case after the entire family of the royal kingdom falls down, Fortinbras proceeds to take the power as named by Prince Hamlet, which is the last scene the plot pyramid construction is complete.

3-5 Soliloquies as key in understanding Hamlet

Through tracing the Shakespeare's play Hamlet, in order for the readers in case of (reading) and for the audience in case of (watching) to understand the play Hamlet, they need to pay full attention to what makes Hamlet Hamlet. There are many issues linked to the play that need to be understood first before one understands the entire play, its purpose, and significance (Wikipedia).

Shakespeare Hamlet is the longest play and amongst the most powerful and influential tragedies in English literature as well as the play seems to have been one of Shakespeare's most popular works during his lifetime. According to this notion, the play need to related to its historical background in which was written and which give a bit hints on how Shakespeare want his reader understand the play in the context of the many themes the play addresses.

In this regard, it's to be noted that, through a detailed analysis and careful investigation of Hamlet as a play, it's observed that Shakespeare's Hamlet has its own uniqueness from the contemporary dramatic standards and norms in several ways. For example, in Shakespeare day, plays were usually understood to follow the advice of Aristotle in his Poetics in which states that a drama should focus on the action, and not on the character. This method which is used by playwrights is a matter of standardization according to the rules set by Aristotle.

However, in Hamlet, Shakespeare does the opposite and reverses this so that it is through the Soliloquies, and not the action, that the audience learns Hamlet's motives and thoughts through these very Soliloquies. This fact stresses the importance and role of the Soliloquies in understanding Hamlet's theme fully. The play also touches many issues of real life concerns that are explored in the Play once carefully read and contemplated.

Also one of the key role of the Soliloquies is that they enhances the theme of the plot, besides advancing the plot structure itself in a way that related to each other and coherent. As Hamlet is Elizabethan drama, the theme of revenge was a popular in that era, as it was an issue of debate of that day.

In addition to that, in the Elizabethan times, tragedies were moved from focussing on the religious aspects to that of secular. And thus Hamlet is clearly a product of its time, and what separate it from other revenge tragedies is that the action readers and the audience expect, especially from the protagonist, Hamlet constantly postponed. In this postponement there is always something need to be discovered within Hamlet character through the Soliloquies he shares with reader and the audience concerning his own personality and trait.

Shakespeare's play Hamlet seems to be a play about indecisiveness, as well as Hamlet's failure to act appropriately. Also concerning the complexity of action in Hamlet, the question of action is not only governed rational consideration, but also by emotional, ethical, and psychological factors that presented through the different forms of Soliloquies as they are used, to reveal those factor to the audience and the reader. Without these relevant Soliloquies, readers cannot understand and relate themselves to the story of the play as they remain lost.

Moreover, after Hamlet's father death, the audience know nothing about who killed the dead king, unless Prince Hamlet on stage reveal that he has spoken with the ghost of his dead father, whom informs him that he, was murdered by Claudius. Without this Soliloquy audience remain without clue .Shakespeare's incorporation of the ghost was mainly to reflect about who killed the king, so that the story's plot get its progress. Thus, the Soliloquy is very necessary in this part of the play, so that it advances the progress and understanding of the plot development.

3.6 Conclusion

In concluding this part firstly the researcher provided in details the key Seven Soliloquies that are spoken by Hamlet the Prince in the play, and which are considered to be the backbone in understanding the story of Hamlet. In providing this details the researcher explained what are the seven key Soliloquies spoken by Hamlet as well as a detailed analysis on how each Soliloquy affect the audience and reader in understanding the story.

Also regarding the research questions and specifically Shakespeare's usage of indirect characterization the researcher elaborated in details on how Shakespeare mastered the technique of indirect characterization which is itself the second question of the research. The research questions will be answered below respectively:

In his first Soliloquy Hamlet, as it's indirectly characterized, Shakespeare reveals his thoughts to the audience by speaking that he is angry with his mother and upset of his father's death. Without this Soliloquy the audience remains unaware of what is in Hamlet thought and feeling. This is clear indication that Shakespeare mastered indirect characterization through Soliloquies, and to reveal the inner feelings of Hamlet.

Secondly Shakespeare also used indirect characterization in his play when Hamlet speaks to his father's ghost who informs him that his uncle murdered him. To sums up, most of the Shakespeare Soliloquies were indirectly characterized through using Soliloquies, a matter which justify the masterfulness of Shakespeare in using indirect characterization method in Hamlet.

Thirdly as to the effect of Soliloquies in shaping and strengthening the plot and theme in Hamlet, it's to be noted as the Soliloquies are key device in drama they have a very important role to play. Soliloquies are in fact used as tool of revealing character's mind. Thus they help and promote the method of characterization, so that audience and readers solely discover what are in the mind of those characters who soliloquize.

Also Soliloquies are not only meant to discover inner thought and feelings of characters, but also plays a very significance role in development the plot and enhancing the theme of the story. To link this with Shakespeare play, it's clear that all elements of plot structure pyramid is applicable in Hamlet starting from the initial events, rising events, crisis and climax as well as the falling actions up to the resolution. Thus, as mentioned before, the role of the Soliloquies are pivotal that they are considered as a corner stone to the development of characters thoughts on one hand, and the development of the entire plot and the theme on the other. Therefore, it could be straightly put that Soliloquies with their full sense as used by Shakespeare have effect upon shaping and strengthening the plot and theme in Hamlet. Thus also the hypnosis related to this question has been rationalized.

5-As to Why Shakespeare incorporated a play-within-a play as dual-technique in Hamlet is that, as Shakespeare is literally intellect, and as he is famous in literary technique, he wanted his plot run in different ways. Shakespeare is not sort of those who just tell stories, rather he is more than that. He always a man who let others think and discover issues themselves. In this regard it's the technique of Shakespeare that let him use this play-within-a play, so that the plot progress is folded in varied routes, bearing in the mind that, this play progressed the story's plot.

CHAPTER FOUR

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4-1 Introduction

The purpose of this study was to prepare and elaborate with example of how literary works such as plays are analyzed, using the literary technique analysis as it's one of the major aspects of studying the field of literature. Since to the best of the researcher's knowledge that there is possibility that some of those interested in literature in general, and specifically those students who major it, pay little attention to the already mentioned aspect of studying literature, this research is specifically designed to meet the need of such groups, and help them understand the way how any literary works is analyzed, using literary technique analysis.

This study is also meant to stress on the important of understanding the dramatic technique analysis, which could be applied in any literary work as there are many literary devices or techniques which can be used as a subject of study. This study also was guided by the following research objectives: To explain through literary analysis of how Shakespeare excelled the use of Soliloquies as dramatic techniques in Hamlet. In this connection, the researcher wanted to elaborate in details how soliloquies as dramatic techniques are vital in understanding several literary elements, such as theme, plot, and the characters. Further to that, this research will again help the common and the average readers to understand the art of literature, and how the playwrights beautify their works using literary technique such as Soliloquy.

This study had the assumption that literary technique analysis could have been presented to cover the full understanding of how it's conducted. However, focus was only given to literary technique analysis of play Hamlet with a specific concentration on Soliloquy as one of the dramatic techniques used in the play.

Finally, the researcher in this research indicated the literature reviews of others who touched many issues of mutual concern with the researcher in answering the research questions which includes the importance of Soliloquy as dramatic technique in enhancing the plot and theme of Hamlet. As well as elaboration of how this technique particularly necessary in understanding Shakespeare play Hamlet. Furthermore, the research explained in details how Soliloquies played such a key role in helping to build the method of characterization, and reveal the inner thoughts and feelings of the characters.

4-2 Summary of the Research

The following are summaries made from data collected and as per the objective of the study.

Shakespeare and the history of Soliloquies

After the literature review and practice of looking closely at small parts of the play Hamlet, most of the literatures reviewed were spoken about how the playwright, Shakespeare employed Soliloquies and other techniques to create an effect and impression on the audience and readers. Also, the literature reviews clearly described about how importance the Soliloquies as one of the literary techniques in understanding both Hamlet as a play and Hamlet as a character.

According to the reviews, Soliloquies are truly had their effect upon shaping and enhancing the plot and themes of Hamlet's story.

Soliloquies are "necessary", especially for Hamlet, who "has put on a mask (the antic 'disposition' and is playing a part" to everyone, expecting perhaps Horatio. The soliloquy is the only way in which he can, and need to, "break out of this unnatural situation and...speak his mind. We share both the relief that he experiences in solitude and the need that he feels to watch his tongue in company". In addition to without soliloquies we would scarcely know anything of hamlet's self-accusation... [They] make us aware of inner conflicts" (Alam, 2005).

Based on this statement, its rationale to say that Soliloquies are important technique if used masterfully through strong characterization method as exemplified in Shakespeare's Hamlet. Shakespeare used a variety of different techniques to promote the characterization and built the plot he wanted, which makes the readers think for themselves and create their own opinions about the events that occur, and the way things are run in the play of Hamlet.

Shakespeare has always been renowned, for his use of techniques, and always being known for letting his characters characterize themselves, a reality which is evident in his play Hamlet. He is also able through his incorporation of other techniques, to create more of an impact on the audience, and allows them to approach the events or understand the story much more directly, without having to use his spoon to feed the readers or the audience.

Characterization through literary technique such as Soliloquies is very necessary for a perfect dramatization, a matter which Shakespeare is very fond of in his plays especially, Hamlet, Macbeth, and Lear. Therefore, Shakespeare, in most part of his play Hamlet, Soliloquies were given to the central character who has the first role of the plot development.

Thus, writing a literary work such as novel, fiction story, or play is not so difficult. But the difficulty is that how one is able to use the different literary and dramatic techniques in advancing the plot and theme of the work. Shakespeare as a playwright mastered this in his play Hamlet, in which he had his characters speak in Soliloquies. Soliloquies in Hamlet in particular, are significant, because without these Soliloquies, there would be no any method of presenting the characters, thoughts, and feeling, which results in the disintegration and isolation between the characters feelings and the audience's understating of the events.

As Harish, (1946) in his book *"Shakespeare and the history of Soliloquies"* highlights that *"the techniques by which human beings are represented in work of art vary widely from age to age, and thus technique vary from place to place, from artistic medium to artistic medium, from genre to genre, from particular artist to particular artist, and sometimes from work to work. The ways in which characters are portrayed in work of art cannot be entirely disentangled from the way in which real human beings are represented"*.

Based on the above, Shakespeare as playwright is one of those who mentioned as of particular age, of particular place, and of particular genre. His representation of his characters thus made his work especially, Hamlet of particular characteristic compared to his contemporaries, and the way he represented his characters is entirely the way that human beings are presented. Thus, the use of Soliloquies in Hamlet by Shakespeare added value and trait to his own distinguished quality.

Therefore, Shakespeare by making his characters having spoken in Soliloquies, he had made the play under study as a masterpiece, which he presented in the way dramatized Hamlet. And thus readers and audience come to understand Hamlet's role as protagonist as well as Hamlet as a play.

4-3 Conclusion

Literature is one of the nice arts. It gives readers a wider imagination to discover the world and see things through their eyes. Literature is interesting to common people in general and students majoring it in particular. The difference is that the latter group should have to see literature with a broader sense, that to say; see it literally by way of looking at the inner aspects of it , such as understanding why some literary works are best ,what quality makes some works better than others. This would takes us to come to what is known as literary analysis and critical analysis of work of arts, which is the main objective of this research.

This term is often tricky to some as it's an umbrella term under which branches is derived from. It's subdivided to literary devices, literary elements, and literary techniques. In order for a reader or student concerned to analyze any novel whether short story, fiction or play, he or she must have to understand how literary analysis techniques, which is a prerequisite for literature study is well-acquainted. Misunderstanding of these techniques would result in failure in analyzing any literary works.

In this study an example of how a literary work, especially the play Hamlet was analyzed using literary technique analysis approach, and how Shakespeare mastered this technique in the context of the entire play, to make it of an impact and impression both to the readers and audience. In this regard, Shakespeare, in

his play Hamlet used one of the best methods of indirect characterization, in which characters speak in Soliloquies to reveal their inner thoughts and feeling. By revealing such thoughts and feeling, characters share these thoughts with the audience, so that the story's plot gets its roll and progressed.

Finally, Shakespeare also in order to enhance his play, incorporated technique of a play-within-a play as other way of plot progressing, a matter which made Shakespeare as a true playwright by the true sense of the meaning.

This study analyzes the play Hamlet, written by Shakespeare. Its focuses on one of the key aspect of studying literature; that is the literary technique.

4-4 Recommendations

Based on the findings and for the purpose of covering a wider area of literary devices or technique analysis, the researcher came up with the following recommendations so that could help in addressing most of the challenges facing literature students and those interested in the field.

- 1- There is a need of persistent literary analysis seminars to be carried out as a method during lectures, especially for the university students who majoring literature field. This idea would acquaint these concerned with the ways to be followed in analyzing literature works, avoid just reading-for-gaining vocabulary purpose, which most readers do nowadays.
- 2- Lecturers at universities, especially those of literature need to intensify their teaching methods, especially of critical thinking and literary techniques analysis to equip the students who would major the field and extend their ability in analyzing any literary works of all genres.

- 3- Students at universities should try to conduct literary technique analysis sessions via selecting certain novel or literary work, and discuss it among the group, so that they learn how to criticize and analyze literature works.
- 4- More focus needed in lecturing students on literary devices, literary elements, and literary techniques. This is due to the fact that these technical terms in literature are puzzling as far as they very important, and thus a there is greater possibly that student do not know how to define and what are they.

Suggestions for Further Studies:-

This research studies one of the several dramatic techniques that used by playwrights in their plays to give the works appreciation and acknowledgment, that is the Soliloquy as exemplified in Shakespeare's play Hamlet. In the research a through literary technique analysis was adopted to analyze one of the most technique presenting the aspect of a literary technique analysis study, through studying the key Seven Soliloquies as spoken by Hamlet and their relation to the play as a whole.

In this regard, there are plenty of similar application of such literary technique analysis can be used for the result of this study for the future works. These future works include study of Hamlet as a complex character (character case study) as this character has relevance with the research study in question as to Hamlet's character and his Seven Soliloquies.

Also studies of one of the many literary devices such as Theme, Plot, and Characterization, The narrative mode, and Conflict. All these could be a further studies as they are all of relevance of this study and especially of Hamlet as a character. Added to this, studies such as how Soliloquies in Hamlet develop the theme, what narrative style Shakespeare used , concept such as indecisiveness

in Hamlet, identity in Hamlet ,complexity of Hamlet are all related issues which could be explored with the outcome of this research.

Finally, apart from Hamlet as a play, there are other plays which can be used similarly such as Macbeth, Othello, and Romeo and Gulliet all have similar or other aspect of literature which could be further studied to relate with the result of this research in under study.

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Appendix

William Shakespeare Biography Poet, Playwright (c. 1564–1616)

William Shakespeare, often called the English national poet, is widely considered the greatest dramatist of all time. William Shakespeare was baptized on April 26, 1564, in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. From roughly 1594 onward he was an important member of the Lord Chamberlain's Men company of theatrical players. Written records give little indication of the way in which Shakespeare's professional life molded his artistry. All that can be deduced is that over the course of 20 years, Shakespeare wrote plays that capture the complete range of human emotion and conflict.

Known throughout the world, the works of William Shakespeare have been performed in countless hamlets, villages, cities and metropolises for more than 400 years. And yet, the personal history of William Shakespeare is somewhat a mystery. There are two primary sources that provide historians with a basic outline of his life. One source is his work—the plays, poems and sonnets—and the other is official documentation such as church and court records. However, these only provide brief sketches of specific events in his life and provide little on the person who experienced those events.

Early Life

Though no birth records exist, church records indicate that a William Shakespeare was baptized at Holy Trinity Church in Stratford-upon-Avon on April 26, 1564. From this, it is believed he was born on or near April 23, 1564, and this is the date scholars acknowledge as William Shakespeare's birthday.

Located 103 miles west of London, during Shakespeare's time Stratford-upon-Avon was a market town bisected with a country road and the River Avon. William was the third child of John Shakespeare, a leather merchant, and Mary Arden, a local landed heiress. William had two older sisters, Joan and Judith, and three younger brothers, Gilbert, Richard and Edmund. Before William's birth, his father became a successful merchant and held official positions as

alderman and bailiff, an office resembling a mayor. However, records indicate John's fortunes declined sometime in the late 1570s.

Scant records exist of William's childhood, and virtually none regarding his education. Scholars have surmised that he most likely attended the King's New School, in Stratford, which taught reading, writing and the classics. Being a public official's child, William would have undoubtedly qualified for free tuition. But this uncertainty regarding his education has led some to raise questions about the authorship of his work and even about whether or not William Shakespeare ever existed.

By 1592, there is evidence William Shakespeare earned a living as an actor and a playwright in London and possibly had several plays produced. The September 20, 1592 edition of the Stationers' Register (a guild publication) includes an article by London playwright Robert Greene that takes a few jabs at William Shakespeare: "...There is an upstart Crow, beautified with our feathers, that with his Tiger's heart wrapped in a Player's hide, supposes he is as well able to bombast out a blank verse as the best of you: and being an absolute Johannes factotum, is in his own conceit the only Shake-scene in a country," Greene wrote of Shakespeare.

Scholars differ on the interpretation of this criticism, but most agree that it was Greene's way of saying Shakespeare was reaching above his rank, trying to match better known and educated playwrights like Christopher Marlowe, Thomas Nashe or Greene himself.

By the early 1590s, documents show William Shakespeare was a managing partner in the Lord Chamberlain's Men, an acting company in London. After the crowning of King James I, in 1603, the company changed its name to the King's Men. From all accounts, the King's Men Company was very popular, and records show that Shakespeare had works published and sold as popular literature. The theater culture in 16th century England was not highly admired by people of high rank. However, many of the nobility were good patrons of the performing arts and friends of the actors. Early in his career, Shakespeare was able to attract the attention of Henry Wriothesley, the Earl of Southampton, to whom he dedicated his first- and second-published poems: "Venus and Adonis" (1593) and "The Rape of Lucrece" (1594).

Writing Style

William Shakespeare's early plays were written in the conventional style of the day, with elaborate metaphors and rhetorical phrases that didn't always align naturally with the story's plot or characters. However, Shakespeare was very innovative, adapting the traditional style to his own purposes and creating a freer flow of words. With only small degrees of variation, Shakespeare primarily used a metrical pattern consisting of lines of unrhymed iambic pentameter, or blank verse, to compose his plays. At the same time, there are passages in all the plays that deviate from this and use forms of poetry or simple prose.

Early Works: Histories and Comedies

With the exception of *Romeo and Juliet*, William Shakespeare's first plays were mostly histories written in the early 1590s. *Richard II*, *Henry VI* (parts 1, 2 and 3) and *Henry V* dramatize the destructive results of weak or corrupt rulers, and have been interpreted by drama historians as Shakespeare's way of justifying the origins of the Tudor Dynasty.

Shakespeare also wrote several comedies during his early period: the witty romance *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the romantic *Merchant of Venice*, the wit and wordplay of *Much Ado About Nothing*, the charming *As You Like It* and *Twelfth Night*. Other plays, possibly written before 1600, include *Titus Andronicus*, *The Comedy of Errors*, *The Taming of the Shrew* and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*.

Later Works: Tragedies and Tragicomedies

It was in William Shakespeare's later period, after 1600, that he wrote the tragedies *Hamlet*, *King Lear*, *Othello* and *Macbeth*. In these, Shakespeare's characters present vivid impressions of human temperament that are timeless and universal. Possibly the best known of these plays is *Hamlet*, which explores betrayal, retribution, incest and moral failure. These moral failures often drive

the twists and turns of Shakespeare's plots, destroying the hero and those he loves.

In William Shakespeare's final period, he wrote several tragicomedies. Among these are *Cymbeline*, *The Winter's Tale* and *The Tempest*. Though graver in tone than the comedies, they are not the dark tragedies of *King Lear* or *Macbeth* because they end with reconciliation and forgiveness.

Death

Tradition has it that William Shakespeare died on his birthday, April 23, 1616, though many scholars believe this is a myth. Church records show he was interred at Trinity Church on April 25, 1616.

In his will, he left the bulk of his possessions to his eldest daughter, Susanna. Though entitled to a third of his estate, little seems to have gone to his wife, Anne, whom he bequeathed his "second-best bed." This has drawn speculation that she had fallen out of favor, or that the couple was not close. However, there is very little evidence the two had a difficult marriage. Other scholars note that the term "second-best bed" often refers to the bed belonging to the household's master and mistress—the marital bed—and the "first-best bed" was reserved for guests.