

English 12

Sample quotations from *Hamlet* for identification. Consider speaker, context, and significance.

1. Seems, madam! Nay, it is; I know not “seems.”
  
2. Thrift, thrift, Horatio! The funeral bak'd meats  
Did coldly furnish forth the marriage tables.
  
3. This above all — to thine own self be true;  
And it must follow, as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man.
  
4. What's Hecuba to him, or he to Hecuba,  
That he should weep for her?
  
5. 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?
  
6. My words fly up, my thoughts remain below;  
Words without thoughts never to heaven go.
  
7. Alas! poor Yorick. I knew him, Horatio; a fellow of infinite jest.... Where be your gibes now? your  
gambols? your songs? your flashes of merriment, that were wont to set the table on a roar?
  
8. We defy augury; there's a special providence in the fall of a sparrow. If it be now, 'tis not to come;  
if it be not to come, it will be now; if it be not now, yet it will come: the readiness is all.