**Our Hamlet:**

The greatest play in the English Language? Certainly the most studied play in the English Language. One thing about the study of Hamlet that seems consistent is that the reading, interpreting and performing of it has been affected by its context – the cultural, philosophical, historical, social, economic and other significant trends of the time. What we will be looking to understand is how the play resonates for you, how you contextualize it.

To that end, each of you will be charged with explaining part of it to us. As we work through the play, we will stop at some of the “most significant lines” of the play and one of you will read and then explain them to us.

**Your tasks:**

Once you have your “lines,” read and reread them, research them, think about them so that when we get to those lines you can

* Read them aloud for us in a way that demonstrates you are familiar with them and know what the lines mean.
* Explain the basic content of the words and lines – what’s going on in this section of the play?
* Explain the significance of the lines in the context of the rest of the play.
* Tell us what the “research” says about the significance of the lines by referring directly to at least one critical reading.

**You will be evaluated on:**

* Your reading of the lines
* Your explanation of the meaning of the words/lines
* Your explanation of the significance of the lines
* Your reference to at least one scholar’s opinion of the significance of the lines
* Your Work(s) Cited