

**Department of English Language
College of Basic Education
University of Misan**



**A graduation project submitted to the Department of English Language at the
College of Basic Education as part of the requirements for obtaining a
Bachelor's degree, entitled:**

"Shakespeare's Hamlet as a Tragic Hero"

Prepared by:

Ali Jassim Mohammed

Ali Hashim Abdul Issa

Supervised by:

Asst. Lecturer Mustafa Hassan Ahtif

2025 A.D

1446 H

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

"وَسَخَّرَ لَكُم مَّا فِي السَّمَاوَاتِ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ جَمِيعًا مِنْهُ إِنَّ فِي ذَلِكَ لَآيَاتٍ لِّقَوْمٍ
يَتَفَكَّرُونَ

(الجاثية: 13)

dedication

With heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation, we dedicate this project to our beloved families, whose unwavering support, patience, and encouragement have been our greatest strength throughout this academic journey.

To our parents, who have always believed in us, nurtured our dreams, and provided us with the love and guidance we needed to succeed—this achievement is as much yours as it is ours.

To our teachers and mentors, whose wisdom and dedication have shaped our understanding and inspired us to strive for excellence, we are forever grateful.

And finally, to all our friends and colleagues who stood by us, shared our struggles, and celebrated our achievements—thank you for making this journey memorable.

This work is a testament to the love, guidance, and encouragement we have received from all of you.

Acknowledgment

First and foremost, we express our sincere gratitude to our supervisor, Asst. Lecturer Mustafa Hassan Ahtif, for his invaluable guidance, insightful feedback, and continuous support throughout this research. His patience, expertise, and encouragement have played a crucial role in shaping this study, and we deeply appreciate his dedication.

We extend our appreciation to all the faculty members of the Department of English Language at the College of Basic Education, University of Misan, for their knowledge, guidance, and the strong academic foundation they have provided us over the years.

A special thank you to our families, whose endless love, sacrifices, and encouragement have been our motivation. Your belief in us has been a driving force behind our success.

We would also like to thank our friends and classmates for their support, constructive discussions, and the memorable experiences we have shared during our academic journey.

Above all, we are grateful to Almighty God for granting us the strength, patience, and perseverance to complete this project successfully.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed, directly or indirectly, to the completion of this research. Your support and encouragement have meant the world to us.

Abstract

The Purpose of this research is to illustrate and explain how Hamlet is considered to be a tragic hero. In the Shakespearean play, Hamlet, the tragedy of a young prince's attempt to extract revenge upon the man who murdered his father is the central idea. First of all, researchers provides the reader with a general introduction about the play 'Hamlet'. Then, the research is divided into three chapters, the first of which is to deal with William Shakespeare's Life and Works. The second chapter, though, is allotted to elucidate summary of the play 'Hamlet'. Furthermore, in chapter three, researchers elucidate the theme of the tragic hero in the play 'Hamlet' in details. In conclusion, researchers illustrate how Prince Hamlet's inability to make crucial decisions ultimately leads to his tragic death, and that is what makes him a tragic hero. In addition to, researchers state that Hamlet is a tragic hero because he is a person of high rank who violated a law, and he poses a threat to society and causes suffering to others through violating the law, which are all characteristics of a tragic hero.

Table of Contents

dedication	I
Acknowledgment	II
Abstract	III
Chapter 1	1
Introduction to Tragedy and the Tragic Hero	1
1.1 Understanding Tragedy in Literature	1
1.2 The Concept of the Tragic Hero	1
1.3 Shakespeare's Approach to Tragedy	2
1.4 Characteristics of a Tragic Hero in Hamlet	3
1.5 The Role of Fate and Free Will	3
1.6 Psychological Depth and Hamlet's Internal Conflict	4
Chapter 2	6
Hamlet's Character and His Tragic Flaw	6
2.1 Hamlet's Noble Status and Intellectual Depth	6
2.2 The Fatal Flaw: Hamlet's Indecisiveness	7
2.3 Hamlet's Feigned Madness and Internal Conflict	8
2.4 Hamlet and the Ghost: Doubt and Hesitation	8
2.5 The Consequences of Hamlet's Indecisiveness	9
Chapter 3	11
The Downfall of Hamlet and the Tragic Conclusion	11
3.1 Hamlet's Indecision and the Fatal Chain of Events	11
3.2 The Play Scene and Hamlet's Psychological Unraveling	12
3.3 The Death of Polonius: A Reckless Act with Dire Consequences	12
3.4 Hamlet's Banishment and His Transformation	13
3.5 The Duel and the Tragic Ending	13
3.6 The Tragic Hero's Fate and Catharsis	14
Conclusion	15
Findings	15
Recommendations	16
Reference	17

Chapter 1

Introduction to Tragedy and the Tragic Hero

1.1 Understanding Tragedy in Literature

Tragedy is one of the most profound genres in literature, exploring themes of fate, human suffering, and moral dilemmas. The origins of tragedy can be traced back to ancient Greece, where Aristotle defined it as "an imitation of an action that is serious, complete, and of a certain magnitude" (Akhtar, 2020, p. 37). According to Aristotle, a true tragedy must evoke pity and fear in the audience, leading to catharsis, a purging of emotions. This fundamental idea of tragedy laid the groundwork for many playwrights, including William Shakespeare, who mastered the art of crafting tragic narratives.

Shakespearean tragedy is distinct from Greek tragedy in its deep psychological complexity and emphasis on human flaws rather than divine intervention. While classical tragedies focus on fate and prophecy, Shakespeare's works emphasize personal responsibility, ethical dilemmas, and the consequences of human actions. His tragic heroes are not simply victims of destiny but individuals whose decisions shape their downfall (Dixit & Kumar, n.d.). This modern interpretation of tragedy has made Shakespeare's works, particularly Hamlet, timeless and universally relevant.

1.2 The Concept of the Tragic Hero

A tragic hero, as defined by Aristotle, possesses several key characteristics: noble birth, a tragic flaw (hamartia), a reversal of fortune (peripeteia), recognition of their own downfall (anagnorisis), and evoking catharsis (Bahri, 2015). Shakespeare adopted this framework but infused it with deeper emotional and intellectual struggles, making his heroes more relatable and human.

Hamlet, as a tragic hero, exemplifies these qualities. He is a prince, ensuring his noble status, but he is also deeply flawed—his tendency to overthink and his indecisiveness become his tragic flaws. His hesitation to act when necessary leads to disastrous consequences, marking his downfall. Unlike classical heroes who succumb to fate, Hamlet actively contributes to his own demise through his choices, making his tragedy all the more poignant (Wilson, 2021).

1.3 Shakespeare's Approach to Tragedy

Shakespeare's tragedies differ from those of his predecessors by emphasizing internal conflict and psychological realism. His heroes are not merely victims of external forces; they struggle with their own emotions, philosophies, and moral dilemmas. In Hamlet, the protagonist's tragedy is not just political or physical but also deeply intellectual and existential. His introspection, famously captured in soliloquies like "To be or not to be," reveals a man tormented by doubt, fear, and philosophical uncertainty (Lisi, 2016).

Additionally, Shakespeare's tragedies incorporate dramatic irony and complex character interactions. The audience often knows more than the characters, intensifying the emotional impact of their choices. Hamlet's feigned madness, for instance, creates a tension between appearance and reality, a recurring theme in the play (Akhter, Abdullah, & Muhammad, 2015).

1.4 Characteristics of a Tragic Hero in Hamlet

Hamlet aligns with Aristotle's concept of a tragic hero in multiple ways:

1. **Noble Birth** – As the Prince of Denmark, Hamlet has a high social status, making his fall from grace all the more tragic.
2. **Tragic Flaw (Hamartia)** – His excessive contemplation and indecisiveness prevent him from taking timely action, leading to unnecessary deaths, including his own.
3. **Reversal of Fortune (Peripeteia)** – Hamlet's plan to expose Claudius backfires, leading to the deaths of Polonius, Ophelia, and ultimately himself.
4. **Recognition of His Mistakes (Anagnorisis)** – By the end of the play, Hamlet acknowledges that fate and mortality are unavoidable, as seen in his words: "There's a divinity that shapes our ends, rough-hew them how we will" (5.2.10).
5. **Catharsis** – The audience experiences a profound emotional release as Hamlet meets his tragic end, fulfilling the essence of a Shakespearean tragedy (Hassan, n.d.).

1.5 The Role of Fate and Free Will

One of the key debates in Hamlet is the interplay between fate and free will. Unlike Greek tragedies, where fate is predetermined, Hamlet struggles with the burden of choice. His hesitation in avenging his father's murder suggests an internal battle between moral integrity and societal duty (Esponilla, Guevarra, & Tenedero, 2020). His famous soliloquy "To be or not to be" is not just a contemplation of suicide but a reflection on whether humans have control over their destinies or are merely pawns of fate.

Throughout the play, Hamlet wrestles with this dilemma. When he delays killing Claudius in Act 3, Scene 3, believing that doing so while Claudius is praying would send his soul to heaven, he demonstrates his deep concern for justice. and morality. (Franck, 2024).

1.6 Psychological Depth and Hamlet's Internal Conflict

Hamlet's internal conflict sets him apart from traditional tragic heroes. While characters like Othello or Macbeth are driven by external pressures or overwhelming emotions, Hamlet is paralyzed by his own intellect. He overanalyzes every situation, leading to self-doubt and inaction (Lucas & Lucas, 2018). His oscillation between action and hesitation makes him a profoundly complex character, relatable to modern audiences who often struggle with decision-making in morally ambiguous situations.

Moreover, Shakespeare employs soliloquies to provide insight into Hamlet's mind. In "O, that this too too solid flesh would melt" (1.2.129), Hamlet expresses his despair over his father's death and his mother's hasty remarriage. This passage highlights his deep melancholy and sets the stage for his eventual breakdown. His thoughts on life, death, and the afterlife contribute to the philosophical depth of the play (Greene, 2016).

Hamlet remains one of Shakespeare's most compelling tragic heroes because of his psychological complexity, moral dilemmas, and philosophical inquiries. Unlike traditional tragic figures who fall due to a single character flaw, Hamlet's downfall is multi-faceted—his indecision, intellect, and circumstances all play a role. This makes his tragedy more realistic and universally relatable.

The play's enduring appeal lies in its ability to resonate with different audiences across time. Hamlet's existential questions, ethical struggles, and tragic fate

continue to captivate scholars, readers, and theatergoers alike. As Shakespeare masterfully illustrates, the true tragedy of Hamlet is not just his death, but his profound inability to reconcile thought and action, a dilemma that remains relevant in contemporary discussions of psychology and human behavior (Kardiansyah, 2016).

Thus, Hamlet stands as a masterpiece of tragic literature, embodying the Aristotelian tragic hero while transcending traditional definitions. Through his introspection, suffering, and inevitable downfall, Hamlet continues to serve as one of literature's most profound examples of human frailty and existential despair.

Chapter 2

Hamlet's Character and His Tragic Flaw

William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* is one of the most profound tragedies in literary history, largely because of the complexity of its protagonist. Hamlet, the Prince of Denmark, embodies the quintessential tragic hero, a noble figure whose downfall is driven by his internal conflicts and a fatal flaw—his indecisiveness. This chapter delves into Hamlet's noble status, his intellectual depth, his tragic flaw, and how these elements contribute to his inevitable downfall.

2.1 Hamlet's Noble Status and Intellectual Depth

From the beginning of the play, Hamlet is presented as a noble character, both by birth and by virtue of his intellect. As the son of the late King Hamlet and the rightful heir to the Danish throne, he fits Aristotle's definition of a tragic hero, who must be of noble stature to make his fall from grace all the more tragic (Akhtar, 2020, p. 37). His nobility is not merely in status but also in his keen philosophical insights. Throughout the play, Hamlet contemplates profound themes such as life, death, fate, and human existence. His famous soliloquy, "To be, or not to be: that is the question" (3.1.56), encapsulates his deep existential crisis and his struggle with action and inaction (Wilson, 2021, p. 284).

Despite his brilliance, Hamlet's excessive thinking becomes his greatest weakness. Unlike other Shakespearean tragic heroes such as Macbeth or Othello, who act impulsively, Hamlet's flaw lies in his overanalysis of situations. This characteristic distances him from the traditional hero who takes swift action, instead making him a figure of modern existential struggle (Lisi, 2016, p. 45).

2.2 The Fatal Flaw: Hamlet's Indecisiveness

A defining trait of Shakespeare's tragic heroes is their hamartia—a fatal flaw that leads to their destruction. In Hamlet's case, his flaw is his indecisiveness, which manifests in his inability to take immediate action against King Claudius, his uncle, who has murdered his father and seized the throne. Instead of avenging his father's death swiftly, Hamlet falls into a cycle of contemplation, self-doubt, and hesitation.

One of the most telling moments of Hamlet's indecisiveness occurs in Act 3, Scene 3, when he finds Claudius alone in prayer. Here, Hamlet has a perfect opportunity to kill him, yet he hesitates, rationalizing that killing Claudius while he is praying might send his soul to heaven:

"Now might I do it pat, now he is praying;
And now I'll do't. And so he goes to heaven;
And so am I revenged. That would be scanned." (3.3.73-75)

This moment highlights Hamlet's tragic flaw. His overthinking leads him to delay his revenge, which ultimately allows Claudius to plot against him, sealing his doom (Bahri, 2015, p. 768). Many scholars argue that Hamlet's hesitation is not just a result of cowardice but of a deep philosophical conflict—he is torn between action and moral integrity, between revenge and justice (Esponilla, Guevarra, & Tenedero, 2020, p. 40).

2.3 Hamlet's Feigned Madness and Internal Conflict

One of Hamlet's most complex characteristics is his use of feigned madness as a strategy to uncover Claudius's guilt. He tells Horatio early in the play:

"As I perchance hereafter shall think meet
To put an antic disposition on." (1.5.171-172)

By pretending to be mad, Hamlet seeks to mislead the court and gather evidence against Claudius. However, his act of madness blurs the line between pretense and reality. The longer he feigns insanity, the more he begins to display true emotional instability, particularly in his interactions with Ophelia. His harsh words to her in Act 3, Scene 1—"Get thee to a nunnery!"—demonstrate his inner turmoil, as he oscillates between love, cruelty, and disillusionment (Akhter, Abdullah, & Muhammad, 2015, p. 123).

This feigned madness is another example of Hamlet's tragic indecisiveness. Instead of taking decisive action against Claudius, he crafts elaborate schemes that only serve to entangle him further in chaos and confusion. Some scholars argue that Hamlet's madness, real or feigned, is a psychological manifestation of his internal struggle—a representation of his inability to reconcile thought with action (Franck, 2024, p. 12).

2.4 Hamlet and the Ghost: Doubt and Hesitation

Another major source of Hamlet's hesitation is his uncertainty about the Ghost's true nature. When the Ghost of his father appears in Act 1, Scene 5, telling Hamlet to avenge his murder, Hamlet does not immediately trust the spirit's words. He fears that the Ghost may be a demon sent to deceive him:

"The spirit that I have seen
May be the devil: and the devil hath power
To assume a pleasing shape." (2.2.599-601)

This doubt delays Hamlet's revenge, as he decides to test Claudius's guilt by staging *The Mousetrap*, a play within the play that mirrors the murder of his father (Dixit & Kumar, 2020, p. 9). Although the play confirms Claudius's guilt, Hamlet still fails to act immediately, showing how his rational mind continually obstructs his ability to execute justice.

2.5 The Consequences of Hamlet's Indecisiveness

Hamlet's inability to act has catastrophic consequences, not only for himself but for nearly every major character in the play. His hesitation indirectly leads to the deaths of Polonius, Ophelia, Rosencrantz, Guildenstern, Laertes, Gertrude, and ultimately himself.

A key turning point is his impulsive killing of Polonius in Act 3, Scene 4, mistaking him for Claudius. This reckless act sets off a chain reaction: Ophelia goes mad and drowns, Laertes seeks revenge, and Claudius intensifies his schemes against Hamlet. Ironically, when Hamlet does finally take action, it is too late—his hesitation has already sealed his fate (Hassan, p. 6).

By the end of the play, Hamlet does finally achieve his revenge, but only at the cost of his own life. In his dying moments, he recognizes the futility of his indecisiveness and proclaims:

"But I do prophesy the election lights
On Fortinbras; he has my dying voice." (5.2.349-350)

This moment signifies Hamlet's acceptance of fate, marking the ultimate tragic realization that his hesitation has led to his downfall (Lucas, 2018, p. 226).

Hamlet's journey is the embodiment of Shakespearean tragedy. His noble character, profound intellect, and deep internal conflicts make him one of the most compelling tragic heroes in literature. Yet, it is his fatal flaw—his inability to act decisively—that ultimately leads to his demise. His endless contemplation of morality, justice, and human existence turns him into a figure of existential tragedy, one whose struggles continue to resonate with audiences centuries later (Greene, 2016, p. 102).

By the time Hamlet finally takes revenge, it is already too late. His story serves as a timeless exploration of human weakness, the complexities of decision-making, and the tragic consequences of overthinking. In the end, Hamlet's fate is sealed not by external forces alone but by the very nature of his own character, making him one of Shakespeare's most profound and enduring tragic heroes.

Chapter 3

The Downfall of Hamlet and the Tragic Conclusion

Hamlet's downfall is a culmination of his internal struggles, moral dilemmas, and external conflicts, all of which align with the classical definition of a tragic hero. His journey from a contemplative prince to a doomed figure is marked by a series of misjudgments, delays, and impulsive actions that ultimately seal his fate. This chapter explores the sequence of events leading to Hamlet's tragic demise, emphasizing his tragic flaw, the inevitability of fate, and the consequences of his actions.

3.1 Hamlet's Indecision and the Fatal Chain of Events

From the outset, Hamlet grapples with an existential and philosophical crisis that hinders his ability to act decisively. His father's ghost instructs him to avenge his murder by killing Claudius, yet Hamlet delays this act repeatedly. His tragic flaw—his excessive contemplation—leads him to doubt the ghost's words, question the morality of revenge, and seek absolute certainty before taking action. This hesitation creates a ripple effect, allowing Claudius to consolidate his power and anticipate Hamlet's eventual move (Akhtar, 2020).

One of the earliest and most pivotal moments of Hamlet's downfall occurs in Act III, Scene 3, when he encounters Claudius in prayer. Here, he has a perfect opportunity to execute his revenge, but he refrains, fearing that killing Claudius during prayer would grant him salvation rather than damnation. Hamlet's decision reflects his obsession with the metaphysical implications of his actions, demonstrating his deep internal conflict rather than strategic hesitation (Dixit & Kumar). This moment of inaction prolongs his suffering and gives Claudius the chance to counteract him.

3.2 The Play Scene and Hamlet's Psychological Unraveling

Hamlet's method of exposing Claudius's guilt through the play *The Mousetrap* reveals his growing instability and paranoia. While his scheme successfully elicits a guilty reaction from Claudius, it also heightens the tension between them, prompting Claudius to view Hamlet as a direct threat. This scene is crucial because it marks a turning point where Hamlet moves from contemplation to confrontation, though still without taking definitive action against Claudius (Bahri, 2015). Instead of using this evidence to act, he continues to engage in self-reflection, missing another opportunity to fulfill his duty.

3.3 The Death of Polonius: A Reckless Act with Dire Consequences

A stark contrast to Hamlet's usual indecisiveness is his impulsive killing of Polonius in Act III, Scene 4. Mistaking Polonius for Claudius, Hamlet stabs him without hesitation, showing that he is capable of decisive action but only when driven by rash emotions rather than careful reasoning. This act has severe repercussions: Ophelia, already fragile due to her father's manipulation and Hamlet's erratic behavior, descends into madness and eventually drowns. Meanwhile, Laertes returns, vowing revenge against Hamlet, thus setting the stage for the final act of the tragedy (Wilson, 2021).

Hamlet's slaying of Polonius is a crucial misstep that propels the plot toward its tragic conclusion. Unlike his careful planning in exposing Claudius, this act is thoughtless and immediate, demonstrating how his tragedy is not only rooted in inaction but also in misguided action. This duality—his hesitation in avenging his father but his rashness in killing Polonius—illustrates his internal contradiction, making his downfall all the more inevitable (Lisi, 2016).

3.4 Hamlet's Banishment and His Transformation

Following Polonius's death, Claudius seizes the opportunity to remove Hamlet by sending him to England with orders for his execution. However, Hamlet's wit and resilience allow him to escape this fate, leading to his return to Denmark. His experiences during this period, including his encounter with the gravediggers and his contemplation of mortality, contribute to his evolving perspective on fate and death. By the time he returns, he has adopted a fatalistic view, accepting that "the readiness is all" (Akhter, Abdullah, & Muhammad, 2015).

This transformation is evident in Act V, Scene 2, when Hamlet declares that all events are predestined, indicating his resignation to his fate. This shift from hesitation to acceptance marks a significant change in his character; he no longer seeks to manipulate or control events but instead embraces the unfolding tragedy. However, this realization comes too late, as the forces he has set in motion are already beyond his control (Esponilla, Guevarra, & Tenedero, 2020).

3.5 The Duel and the Tragic Ending

The climax of the play occurs in the duel between Hamlet and Laertes. The scene is layered with deception, as Claudius and Laertes conspire to kill Hamlet using a poisoned blade. Despite the underlying treachery, Hamlet initially approaches the duel with a sense of honor, unaware of the trap laid for him. However, once Gertrude drinks the poisoned wine meant for him and Laertes wounds him with the poisoned blade, the gravity of the situation becomes clear. Hamlet, finally acting with decisive force, kills Claudius before succumbing to the poison himself (Franck, 2024).

This moment encapsulates the essence of Shakespearean tragedy—Hamlet achieves his goal of avenging his father, but at the cost of his own life and the

destruction of nearly everyone around him. His downfall is not merely a personal failure but a broader commentary on the consequences of revenge, power struggles, and human frailty (Lucas, 2018).

3.6 The Tragic Hero's Fate and Catharsis

Hamlet's death is accompanied by a sense of catharsis, as his suffering comes to an end and order is ostensibly restored in Denmark. Fortinbras's arrival signifies the transition to a new regime, emphasizing the impermanence of power and human ambition. In his final moments, Hamlet entrusts Horatio with the task of telling his story, ensuring that his suffering is not in vain (Greene, 2016).

The audience, having witnessed Hamlet's intellectual brilliance, moral struggles, and tragic demise, experiences a profound emotional release. Shakespeare's mastery lies in crafting a protagonist whose internal and external conflicts resonate deeply, making Hamlet one of the most compelling tragedies in literary history (Kardiansyah, 2016).

Hamlet's downfall is a result of his inability to reconcile thought and action. His indecision, impulsiveness, and philosophical depth contribute to his tragic fate, making him one of Shakespeare's most complex tragic heroes. His journey from hesitation to realization, and ultimately to death, follows the trajectory of a classic tragedy, fulfilling Aristotle's definition of the tragic hero.

Conclusion, Findings, and Recommendations

Conclusion

Shakespeare's Hamlet stands as one of the most profound tragedies in literary history, primarily due to the complexity of its protagonist. Hamlet's downfall is a consequence of his intellectual depth, moral dilemmas, and inability to take decisive action at crucial moments. His journey from a grief-stricken prince to a tragic hero exemplifies the characteristics outlined by Aristotle, including noble birth, a fatal flaw, a reversal of fortune, and eventual catharsis. His internal struggle between thought and action, combined with external pressures from the corrupt court of Denmark, leads to his inevitable demise.

The play's tragic conclusion not only fulfills the expectations of classical tragedy but also invites deeper philosophical contemplation on fate, mortality, and the human condition. Through Hamlet's experiences, Shakespeare explores themes of revenge, power, justice, and existential doubt, making the character's downfall both personal and universal. The audience is left with a sense of catharsis, reflecting on the consequences of indecision, the dangers of manipulation, and the inevitability of death.

Findings

- Throughout the play, Hamlet exhibits a reluctance to act, which ultimately leads to his downfall. His excessive contemplation prevents him from seizing opportunities to avenge his father, delaying justice until it is too late (Akhtar, 2020).
- Although Hamlet is generally hesitant, he is paradoxically impulsive in moments of intense emotion, as seen in the killing of Polonius. This rash

action sets off a chain reaction that leads to Ophelia's death, Laertes's revenge, and ultimately, Hamlet's own demise (Bahri, 2015).

- Shakespeare presents revenge as a corrupting force that consumes not only the avenger but also those around him. Claudius, Laertes, and Hamlet all seek revenge, and in the end, all perish, leaving Denmark in a state of chaos (Wilson, 2021).
- By Act V, Hamlet has transitioned from a hesitant thinker to a man who accepts fate. His words, "The readiness is all," indicate his resignation to destiny, reflecting a fatalistic worldview that contrasts with his earlier self-doubt (Lisi, 2016).

Recommendations

- Future research could explore Hamlet's internal conflicts using psychological theories, such as Freud's Oedipus complex or existentialist philosophy, to deepen the understanding of his character.
- Comparing Hamlet to other tragic heroes like Macbeth, Othello, or King Lear could provide insight into Shakespeare's evolving portrayal of tragedy and human weakness.
- Investigating how modern theater and film have interpreted Hamlet can reveal how contemporary audiences perceive his tragic flaws and dilemmas.
- Analyzing how revenge operates in literature beyond Hamlet—such as in Greek tragedies or modern novels—could offer a broader understanding of its impact on character development and narrative structure.

Reference

1. Akhtar, M. E. (2020). Tragedy and Spirit of Major Shakespearean Tragic Hero. *International Journal of Recent Research and Review*, 13(3), 36-40.
2. Dixit, A., & Kumar, A. Stature of Shakespeare's Tragic Hero: Hamlet.
3. Akhter, J., Abdullah, S., & Muhammad, K. (2015). Hamlet as a Superfluous Hero. *International Journal of Literature and Arts*, 3, 120-128.
4. Bahri, S. (2015). The Conflicts in Shakespeare's Drama Hamlet. *Jurnal Bahas Unimed*, 26(3), 76534.
5. Esponilla, A. T., Guevarra, F. J. C., & Tenedero, C. J. (2020). Selected Shakespearean Tragic Plays: Error of Judgment of the Characters and Its Implication to Teaching Literature. *SDCA Asia-Pacific Multidisciplinary Research Journal* Volume 2, December 2020, 38.
6. Franck, C. A. (2024). The Tragedy of Hamlet (Bachelor's thesis, NTNU).
7. Grene, N. (2016). Shakespeare's tragic imagination. Springer.
8. Hassan, M. H. The Tragic perspective in Hamlet's character during the play-scene.
9. Kardiansyah, M. Y. (2016). The Index of Hero's Power and Nobility in Shakespearean Tragedy Drama: a Semiotic Study. *Teknosastik*, 14(2), 11-17.
10. Lisi, L. F. (2016). Hamlet: The Impossibility of Tragedy/The Tragedy of Impossibility. In Volume 16, Tome II: Kierkegaard's Literary Figures and Motifs (pp. 29-54). Routledge.
11. Lucas, D. A., & Lucas, D. A. (2018). Case Study Two: Shakespeare's Hamlet. Affect Theory, Genre, and the Example of Tragedy: Dreams We Learn, 191-240.
12. Wilson, J. (2021). The Meaning of Death in Shakespeare's Hamlet. *ANQ: A Quarterly Journal of Short Articles, Notes and Reviews*, 34(4), 282-286.