



YEAR 7 Drama KO TERM 3

HAMLET PLOT

Hamlet is a tragic play about a young prince of Denmark named **Hamlet**. When the play begins, Hamlet's father, the **King**, has died. Soon after, Hamlet's mother, **Queen Gertrude**, marries Hamlet's uncle, **Claudius** — who has now become the new king.

One night, Hamlet sees the **ghost of his father**, who tells him that **Claudius murdered him** to take the throne. The ghost asks Hamlet to **get revenge**. Hamlet pretends to be **mad (crazy)** while he tries to find out the truth. He stages a **play within the play** to see if Claudius will react guiltily — and he does! But Hamlet's actions also cause many problems. He accidentally kills **Polonius**, a royal advisor, which drives Polonius's daughter **Ophelia** (Hamlet's girlfriend) mad with grief.

In the end, there's a **duel** between Hamlet and **Laertes** (Polonius's son). The fight turns deadly: **Gertrude, Claudius, Laertes, and Hamlet** all die. Hamlet's best friend **Horatio** takes over the throne.

Hamlet Main Characters

Hamlet — The Prince of Denmark. Clever, emotional, and troubled by his father's death.

King Claudius — Hamlet's uncle and the new king. He murdered Hamlet's father.

Queen Gertrude — Hamlet's mother. She loves Hamlet but quickly marries Claudius.

The Ghost — The spirit of Hamlet's father, who asks Hamlet to avenge his death.

Ophelia — Polonius's daughter and Hamlet's love interest. Gentle and kind.

Polonius — The king's advisor and father to Ophelia and Laertes.

Laertes — Ophelia's brother, who later seeks revenge on Hamlet.

Horatio — Hamlet's loyal friend who survives to tell the story.

THEATRE DESIGN TYPES OF PUPPETS

1. Humanette Puppets

A mix of human and puppet! The actor's head is real, but the puppet's small body is attached below it, making it look funny and creative.

2. Sock Puppets

Made from an old sock with eyes and a mouth added. The puppeteer's hand makes the puppet 'talk' by opening and closing the sock.

3. Shadow Puppets

Flat paper shapes are moved between a light and a screen. The audience only sees the shadows moving in the light.

4. Cable-Operated Puppets

Moved using wires or cables inside the puppet. These allow detailed movement like blinking or waving.

5. Animatronic Puppets

High-tech puppets with motors or robotics. Often used in movies for lifelike creatures or animals.

6. Trash Puppets

Made from recycled materials like bottles or boxes. Fun and eco-friendly way to create characters.

7. Actors and Puppets

Actors perform with puppets, often controlling them visibly. The actor helps bring emotion and realism, like in *War Horse*.

8. String Puppets / Marionettes

Controlled by strings or wires from above. The puppeteer moves crossbars to make the puppet walk or dance.

9. Ventriloquist 1

A performer speaks without moving their lips, making it seem like the puppet (the dummy) is talking back!

11. Paper Giant

A huge puppet made from paper and cardboard. Needs several people to move it and looks amazing on stage!