Hamlet Activities

You need to have 50 points. You may choose to do one of the 50 point projects or several of the smaller projects to reach the 50 points.

Items worth 50 Points

* Shakespeare's tragic heroes are exceptional beings. They are persons of high rank or public importance, so much so that what they do, feel, and suffer impacts on all those around them causing the "whole kingdom/ To be contracted in one brow of woe;" Using this idea as a starting point, examine the minor characters of the play: Laertes, Ophelia, Polonius, Claudius and Gertrude. **Write a composition** showing how Hamlet's attitudes and actions affect each of the characters named, establishing Hamlet's importance at the Danish court as the incident which makes his impact on those around him inevitable.
* Examine the character of Hamlet in William Shakespeare's *Hamlet.* **Write an Opinion essay** discussing Hamlet's character and attempting to explain through Hamlet's characteristics and emotional condition why Hamlet does not avenge his father's murder immediately upon learning of the murder from the dead king's ghost.
* Research Shakespeare’s Globe Theater and 3-D model of it.

Items worth 25 Points

* Create a board game with Hamlet to help review for a test. You can use Jeopardy, Monopoly, Clue, or create your own.
* Create a comic strip over one scene in Hamlet.
* Create a time-line with at least one picture for each scene.
* Imagine that Hamlet has been put on trial for murder and has pleaded insanity. You will choose to be an attorney for either the defense or prosecution. **Write an attorney's closing argument establishing either Hamlet's sanity or insanity.**

Items worth 15 Points

* Design a cover for a new edition of Hamlet. Be sure and include a synopsis and “about the author” section.
* Create a time-line with at least one picture for each act.
* Write a modern version of the famous “To be or not to be” [soliloquy](http://www.joefahs.net/chase/web/glossary.htm) using the voice and point of view of a popular television, film, literary, or political figure.
* Create a newspaper article for the ending of *Hamlet*. Be sure to include who, what, when, where, why, and how.

Items worth 10 Points

* Writers sometimes use a literary devise called a **foil**. A foil is a character who contrasts strongly with another. The characters may face similar obstacles or situations but react differently. In Hamlet, Shakespeare uses Horatio, Laertes, and Fortinbras as foils for Hamlet. Use a Venn-Diagram to compare two different characters. Consider the different ways these young men react to similar situations.
* **Create a character shield** to represent one of the characters in Hamlet. Each section of the shield should represent: A) he character's goals B) the character's worst fear C) the character's essential nature in symbolic form, preferably as an animal D) three words representing the character E) each section should contain a picture and a quote from the play F) attach a written explanation of the shield to the back.

Items worth 5 Points

* Write a crossword puzzle with at least 20 questions.
* Translate your favorite school appropriate song into Elizabethan language.
* Write an acronym poem about a character.
* Write a diary entry from the point of view of one of the other characters about Hamlet’s actions.