

## ACT 2 Exit Ticket

### 2.1

1. What is Polonius telling Reynaldo to do? What does this tell us about Polonius and his way of thinking and acting?
2. Why is Ophelia so upset when she enters at 2.1.74.1? What has happened to her?
3. What is Polonius' response to what Ophelia tells him? Where are they going?

### 2.2

1. Why have Rosencrantz and Guildenstern come to court?
2. What results have come from Cornelius' and Voltmand's trip to Norway?
3. How effective is Polonius as a bearer of news? How convinced are Claudius and Gertrude that Polonius has found the answer? How do they plan to test this answer? Does Polonius' plan sound like his normal way of operating (2.2.163-68)?
4. What is unusual about the speech Hamlet begins to recite (2.2.430-44) and the First Player continues (2.2.448-498). How is its style different from that of the surrounding lines of *Hamlet*? Why is its subject matter appropriate? (See Note 2 to line 430.) Do lines 461-62 echo anything from or about the play *Hamlet*? Why can't the First Player finish the speech?
5. What play does Hamlet want the players to play? What does he want to do to the play?
6. Read Hamlet's third soliloquy carefully (2.2.526-82). How does he use the player's response to show how different his own position is? Is the comparison justified by what we have seen happen in the play? He complains that he hasn't acted on his vengeance. Why hasn't he? Why does he need the play? What will he learn from it?