

***Hamlet* in Plain English**

If you are reading this, you

- A) are alive.
- B) passed reading class a long, long time ago.
- C) just watched a witty Common Craft video.

Yay! Your objective is to take a theme from *Hamlet* and create a Common Craft-esque video that represents your theme.

We'll use class time to create this project, and we'll have many special guest appearances by Ken Rodoff, aka the Lord of the Wiki! In class, we'll break down each day into a different task. And at the end, we'll screen our films.

Here is the process:

1. Select a theme. We have discussed many themes threaded throughout *Hamlet*. Your job is to select one and propose your initial idea to me.
2. Once you have your theme, you will gather at least five textual examples that represent this theme. I want to see the act, scene, and line numbers.
3. Once you have gathered the textual evidence, you will organize it into an outline that you will eventually translate into a storyboard.
4. Create a storyboard. The storyboard will serve as the blueprint for the film. You must provide pictures along with the script for each storyboard scene. I must approve the storyboard before you begin filming.
5. After you have created your storyboard, you will begin to gather and create elements to use for the film. Keep in mind that you are using the blueprint of a Common Craft video to convey your theme simply. You may use a variety of options here.
6. Once you have completed all of the aforementioned tasks, you will begin filming. Filming should take one class block. I suggest filming in sequential order to expedite the editing process.
7. The final stage of this project will consist of editing the film and doing the voice-over recording. This will be the longest stage of the project and will require a lot of input from all group members.
8. After you've finished your films, we will screen them all in class. We will show the films not only to our class but to other classes as well.

Grading Criteria

The following are criteria for grading this project:

- There is evidence of collaboration during research, storyboarding, filming, and editing.
- The storyboard is clear and has extremely specific scenes and quotes. It identifies your theme and shows that your scenes reinforce and demonstrate that theme.
- You do all your work within the allotted time. This includes your storyboarding, filming, and editing.
- The film's scenes sync up with the storyboard.
- The storyboard is well written and free of grammatical and mechanical errors.
- The film is at least one minute long, but not longer than two minutes.
- Group members show that they had a good time and thoroughly enjoyed this “super happy-rific” project!

The entire project will be worth seventy points per group. Each group member will also anonymously grade the other members on their individual performance in the group. I will provide a rubric for this procedure.