Hamlet – Act III & IV Quiz Study Guide

Hamlet, still acting a bit strange and not himself, performs his famous “To be or not to be” speech, in which he debates _______________. This is an example of a ______________________ (a speech in a play in which a character tells his/her thoughts to the audience, as if talking to him/herself). He is interrupted as Ophelia enters the room, trying to give back love tokens from Hamlet (while being spied on by Polonius & Claudius). Hamlet insults Ophelia, crushing her even more.

During the play, Hamlet asks his best friend, ________________, to watch King Claudius’ reaction. Seeing the events of his past on stage, Claudius abruptly ends the play (showing his guilt). Afterward, while alone, Claudius ________________________________. Hamlet comes across him while he is doing so – the perfect opportunity to take his revenge. He does not do so because _________________________________ _____________________________________________________________________.

At her request, Hamlet then goes to see his mother in her room. Polonius, hiding behind the drapes, eavesdrops on their conversation. When Polonius feels things are getting out of hand, he calls for help. At this moment, Hamlet ________________________________, thinking it was Claudius. The Ghost of King Hamlet reappears to Hamlet, telling him to ________________________________. Unfortunately, she cannot see him.
After finding out what Hamlet has done (and knowing he is unto him), Claudius sends Hamlet to _______________________. Here, Hamlet is to be ___________________________. Claudius does not punish Hamlet because of _________________________________ and ______________________. While he is away, ________________ returns from France – VERY angry to hear of his father’s death. He wants _____________________________________________________________________________. His poor sister, _________________, is acting a bit batty (crazy), due to __________________________________________________________________________________. Things take a turn for the worse when Ophelia ________________________ ___________________________________________________________________________.

Hamlet returns to Denmark, which is a huge surprise to Claudius (remember, he sent him off to be killed). In order to end Hamlet once and for all, Claudius comes up with a plan that will benefit both he and Laertes – of course, Laertes will be doing all of the dirty work! Laertes and Hamlet will have a fencing match, in which Laertes’ rapier tip will be dipped in ______________________, which has no antidote. Needing a back-up plan (just in case), Claudius will also have a poisoned cup of wine at the match, which he will have for Hamlet to drink. And so the plot thickens...