Hamlet: prince of denmark

Literature, American Literature



Corruption [Claudius] " My words fly up, my thoughts remain below; Words without thoughts never to heaven go" "But know, thou noble youth, The serpent that did sting thy father's life Now wears his crown" "You were sent for, and there is a kind of confession in your looks which your modesties have not craft enough to color. I know the good king and queen have sent for you. "[Hamlet] " Frailty, thy name is woman" " Get thee to a nunnery!" " My thoughts be bloody, or be nothing worth" [Huck] " They talked it over, and they was going to rule me out, because they said every boy must have a family or somebody to kill, ...so I offered them Miss Watson" "' Oh, yes, pretty well off. He had houses and land, and it's reckoned he left three or four thousand in cash hid up som'ers'... I see what HE was up to; but I never said nothing, of course" " I slipped into cornfields and borrowed a watermelon, or a mushmelon, ... or things of that kind. Pap always said it warn't no harm to borrow things ... but the widow said it [was] a soft name for stealing" [Bernard Marx] " Pale, wild-eyed, the Director glared about him in an agony of bewildered humiliation ... [John] flopped down and called him (the joke was almost too good to be true!) 'my father'." "[Bernard] solemnly lecuring him [Mustapha Mond] - him - about the social order was really too grotesque. The man must have gone mad" "'And I had six girls last week' ... Helmholtz listened to his boastings ... gloomily disapproving that Bernard was offended. Never, he told himself, never would he speak to Helmholtz again" Choices and Consequences [Hamlet] " I must be cruel, only to be kind" [leading to hate] I will speak daggers to her, but use none." [Hamlet -> Gertrude -> Claudius] " How strange or odd so ever I bear myself, as I perchance hereafter shall think meet to put an antic disposition on" The

spirit that I have seen May be the devil: and the devil hath power To assume a pleasing shape; yea, and perhaps Out of my weakness and my melancholy" " Now might I do it pat, now he is praying. And now I'll do it... And so am I revenged... No! " [Claudius] " That he calls for a drink, I'll have prepared him a chalice for the nonce, whereon but sipping, if he by chance escape your venomed stuck" "O, for two special reasons ... the queen his mother lives almost by his looks, and for myself - the virtue or my plague, be it either which - she is so conjunctive to my life and soul ... " " But know, thou noble youth, The serpent that did sting thy father's life Now wears his crown" [Huckleberry Finn] "' All right, then, I'll GO to hell' — and tore it up" " I see I was weakening; so I just give up trying, and up and says: 'He's white.'" "These liars warn't no kings nor dukes at all, but just low-down humbugs and frauds. But I never said nothing" "'Oh, yes, pretty well off. He had houses and land, and it's reckoned he left three or four thousand in cash hid up som'ers.' I see what HE was up to; but I never said nothing, of course" [John, the Savage] " To think it should be coming true - what I've dreamed of all my life ... O brave new world" "'Listen, I beg of you ... Don't take that horrible stuff. It's poison, it's poison ... he began to throw the little pill-boxes of soma tablets ... out into the area" "'I want God, I want poetry, I want real danger, I want freedom... I'm claiming the right to be unhappy.'" Isolation [Hamlet] " How weary, stale, flat and unprofitable, seem to me all the uses of this world" "Denmark's a prison" "To be or not to be, that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles, and by opposing end them. To die, to sleep, no more; and by a sleep to say we end the heart-ache

and the thousand natural shocks that flesh is heir to. To die, to sleep; to sleep, perchance to dream - ay, there's the rub, for in that sleep of death what dreams may come, when we have shuffled off this mortal coil, must give us pause" " How strange or odd so ever I bear myself, as i perchance hereafter shall think meet to put an antic disposition on" [Huck Finn] " This shook me up considerable, because I didn't want to go back to the widow's any more and be so cramped up and sivilized, as they called it" " I went up to my room ... and tried to think of something cheerful, but it warn't no use. I felt so lonesome I most wished I was dead" " They talked it over, and they was going to rule me out, because they said every boy must have a family or somebody to kill... I was most ready to cry; but all at once I thought of a way...; I offered them Miss Watson" "Pap he hadn't been seen for more than a year and that was comfortable for me; I didn't want to see him no more" "I see Jim before me all the time: in the day and in the night-time, ... talking and singing and laughing... I couldn't seem to strike no places to harden me against him, but only the other kind. [John, the Savage] " Don't take that horrible stuff. It's poison, it's poison ... Don't you even understand what manhood and freedom are? ... I'll teach you; I'll make you be free whether you want it or not." " They disliked me for my complexion. It's always been like that. Always.'" "'But I don't want comfort. I want God, I want poetry, I want real danger, I want freedom... I'm claiming the right to be unhappy.'" 1. reasons for Isolation Hamlet is basically isolated from everyone at the court. The only real friend he can trust is Horatio. Even Hamlet's own mother has married his uncle and Hamlet does not really know her degree of involvement, if any, in his father's death. Ophelia is too close to her father,

Polonius, to be trusted. After all, all Polonius has to do is tell her not to see Hamlet and she obeys him. This sense of isolation must lead to both desperation and depression for Hamlet, who is trying to find out the truth about his father's death before he does anything. After the play, "The Mousetrap," Hamlet discovers what he thinks is the truth but he is still alone in his search for revenge. Horatio can listen, but he is not a member of the royal family, and therefore has no real power to help Hamlet. Then he is sent to England with Rosencranz and Guildenstern, two so-called friends that he does not trust. His suspicions are confirmed once he gets ahold of the letter Claudius is sending to the King of England, asking the English king to execute Hamlet. He returns to Denmark, only to find Ophelia dead, Laertes his enemy and still only Horatio to confide in. His sense of isolation must be almost total towards the end of the play. I think that is one of the reasons he accepts whatever fate has planned for him during the sword fight with Laertes. Even if he had survived the sword fight and Fortinbras' challenge, life as the King of Denmark would have made him even more isolated than before because leadership by itself is isolating. 2. reason for isolation Hamlet is a very intellectual play that concerns itself with questions of the mind, in particular whether or not Hamlet is sane or not. The mind itself is an isolating concept. Hamlet, who is either feigning madness or is has actually become insane, is literally trapped in his thoughts and this is beautifully expressed in his 'To be or not to be' soliloguy. His thoughts caputre and imprison him, which also explains Hamlet's inability to act out his revenge straight away. Ophelia, a character who undoubtably goes mad, is another example of how one becomes trapped in their mind and is physically isolated from the court

before she is removed from life itself through death. Another character study in isolation would be Claudius. His guilt for the murder of his brother is often on his mind, and Claudius reveals his feelings of isolation when he confesses to God that he is a murderer. He alone knows the truth of the murder (or so he thinks) and as such, he suffers alone. All three of these characters suffer major psychological issues which cause them to become prisoners unto themselves, each one trapped in their own mental states. Appearance Vs Reality Huck Finn, their coming of age experiences distort reality into what they want that reality to be; they see their experiences at the beginning of each of their journeys as examples of how they view reality and turn them into something that the world's reality is not. the theme of appearance versus reality in their coming of age experiences are brought forth and made evident through the picaresque novel technique, throughout the book Mark Twain is showing that through the adventures Huck has throughout the novel, he begins to grow and learn the differences between right and wrong. While he is living in his reality of a child and how they view the world helped to bring about a new reality of a child that is more mature. At the beginning of the novel, Huck begins his series of adventures by killing a pig to make everyone think that he was dead so that he could escape his father. This may seem like something a child might not think of, but his motives were childlike in the essence that he wanted to spend his days being carefree doing whatever he wished. As Huck continues on his adventures, including his moral dilemma about turning Jim in, the Wilkes family visit, and the Phelps farm, the reader can see that Huck is growing in how he views things. One of the major coming of age dilemma's Huck had to overcome was

making a decision about right and wrong. One of the adventures he has where this theme is especially evident in is when Huck, Jim, the Duke and the King go to the Wilkes' home with the Duke and the King are posing as Peter Wilkes' relatives. Towards the end of the time they are at the Wilkes' place, Huck made a decision to take the money that the Duke and King had stolen and give it to Mary Jane instead. "I wish I knowed, but I don't. I had it, because I stole it from them: and I stole it to give to you: and I know where I hid it, but I'm afraid it ain't there no more. I'm awful sorry, Miss Mary Jane, I'm just as sorry as can be; but I done the best I could; I did, honest" (Twain 154). Here, Huck is demonstrating that he understands what honesty and loyalty is, something he did not fully understand at the beginning of the novel, and has done something for another human being without concern for his own welfare. Additionally, further along in the novel, Huck's coming of age and moral development has been maturing. He has reached a point where he is able to successfully make a decision that demonstrates his moral development and drastically changes him. at some points, Huck struggles with the decision of whether or not to turn Jim in as a runaway slave. In this dilemma, he has to figure out not what his childlike mind thinks he should do, but what would be the right thing to do. At first, Huck decides to write the letter to Miss Watson, but then begins to think about the letter and how kind Jim had been. " But somehow I couldn't seem to strike no places to harden me against him, but only the other kind... he was so grateful and said I was the best friend Jim ever had in the world, and the only one he's got now; and then I happened to look around, and see that paper" (Twain 168). Jim's kindness is what changes his mind about sending the letter and he

tears it up. Critic Kenneth Lynn, author of Mark Twain and Southwestern Humor summarizes this point: But in Chapter 15, when Huck plays a prank on Jim by persuading him that the separation in the fog was only a dream, Jim's dignified and moving rebuke suddenly opens up a new dimension in the relation. Huck's humble apology is striking evidence of growth in moral insight. It leads naturally to the next chapter in which Mark Twain causes Huck to face up for the first time to the fact that he is helping a slave to escape. It is as if the writer himself were discovering unsuspected meanings in what he had thought of as a story of picaresque adventure Huck begins to see differences between his reality and the world's reality. This realization demonstrates his coming of age; in other words, his understanding that his view of reality, the fantasy world he lived in, was distorted. BWM, Hamlet and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain are two novels that discuss the issue of how individuals grow into more mature individuals through a series of adventures that demonstrate their progress. through his adventures learns the importance of friendship, what is grounded reality and what is the idealized reality of life. It is important for individuals to remember that being a dreamer is a good thing and it can bring about good things that help the person grow, but when those dreams become a distorted view of reality then it has the opposite effect.