

Allusions in hamlet

Literature



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Allusion Literal meaning How it develops theme Sources I would have such a fellow whipped for o'erdoing Termagant (II, ii, 14) I would whip the man who overacted the villain role of Termagant.

This is a reference to overacting. The implied violence shows that Hamlet feels strongly about the realism he desires in the play. This line develops the theme of Hamlet's psychological intensity by showing his own passionate nature and determination to have his way.

Websters Online Dictionary

It out herods Herod (III, ii, 14)

It is more overdone than the already overacted role of Herod

This is the second reference to over-acting that Hamlet makes, after the reference to Termagant. It tells the players that he wants the play to be as realistic as possible. This also develops the above-mentioned theme by reinforcing Hamlet's seriousness about his purpose (to reveal his uncle's guilt).

Websters Online Dictionary

“ For O, For O, the hobbyhorse is forgot”

He is forgotten, like the forgotten hobby-horse in the song

This shows Hamlet's love for his father and his disapproval of how his mother has handled the situation. The allusion here suggests that Hamlet believes that his mother views his father as “ yesterday's news.” This allusion develops the theme of Hamlet's revenge by showing how strongly he disapproves of his mother's attitude.

No Fear Shakespeare/Spark Notes

Websters URL: <http://www.websters-online-dictionary.org/definitions/TERMAGANT? cx= partner-pub->

<https://assignbuster.com/allusions-in-hamlet/>

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TERMAGANT&sa= Search#906

Spark Notes URL: [http://nfs. sparknotes. com/hamlet/page_160. html](http://nfs.sparknotes.com/hamlet/page_160.html)