

9 - WHEN HAMLET MEETS THE GHOST OF HIS FATHER

How does meeting the ghost of his dead father affect Hamlet?

WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of paper, or a notebook and something to write and draw with.
- A computer with internet connection, ready to visit [this page](#).

ACTIVITY

- Visit the language analysis page on the RSC Learning Zone [here](#) and select 'Analysing the imagery/religious imagery'.
- Read the extract from Act 1 Scene 5 on the page.
- Imagine you are the Ghost. Read aloud all the Ghost's lines.
- The Ghost gives Hamlet all the details of who murdered him: where, how and what the consequences are. Draw three pictures that show the murder in detail: before, during and after the event.
- Label your pictures with words selected from the Ghost's lines.
- Ask yourself: In what ways does the language the Ghost uses affect Hamlet?
- On the same page of the Learning Zone, read the information about religious imagery in this scene.
- Ask yourself: How might Hamlet's faith contribute to the affect the Ghost has on him?

EXTENSION

- Watch the Q and A from the Hamlet Schools Broadcast [here](#), in which Paapa Essideu discusses why our 2016 RSC production was set in West Africa (from 15.00-16.28).
- Ask yourself: What was it that led the 2016 company to set the play in West Africa?
- Return to the language analysis page on the RSC Learning Zone [here](#). Fill out the religious imagery grid to analyse how the Ghost of Old Hamlet uses religious imagery and language to influence his son.