

Hamlet as a kids' play

File Title	Hamlet as a kids' play
Based on	British Council's short story of Hamlet for kids
Edited by	DHDK student Lamargese Amelia Simonetta
Publication	Distributed privately for a university project
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Schema Specification	myTEI
Tags Declaration	This element is used for all stage directions
Language	English
Play Channel	Written to be spoken. A play's text to be performed as drama.
Setting Description	Denmark

Characters

Role	Description
Hamlet	Protagonist
Ghost	Ghost of Hamlet's father, Deuteragonist
Gertrude	Hamlet's mother
Claudius	Hamlet's uncle, the antagonist
Horatio	Hamlet's friend, Confidante
Ophelia	Hamlet's girlfriend, Love interest
Laertes	Ophelia's brother
Actor 1	
Actor 2	
Narrator 1	Narrator of Scene 1
Narrator 2	Narrator of Scene 2
Narrator 3	Narrator of Scene 3
Narrator 4	Narrator of Scene 4

SCENES

Scene	Content
SCENE 1	<p>Narrator 1, Hamlet, Gertrude, Claudius</p> <p>(Narrator 1 enters the scene and goes to the left corner of the stage. Hamlet goes in the middle of the main stage and sits)</p> <p>Narrator 1: Many years ago in Denmark there was a prince called Hamlet. One day Hamlet's father, the king, dies suddenly and Hamlet is very sad.</p> <p>(Hamlet puts his head on his knees and cries)</p> <p>(Gertrude and Claudius go behind Hamlet, one in front of each other and they hold their hands)</p> <p>Narrator 1: After this, Hamlet's mother, Gertrude, gets married again very quickly. She marries her husband's brother, Claudius, and Claudius is now the king!</p> <p>(Hamlet stands up, he moves towards one side of the stage and looks at his mother, angry and sad)</p> <p>Hamlet: How could you do this to me!</p> <p>(everybody leaves the scene)</p>
SCENE 2	<p>Hamlet, Narrator 2, Horatio, Ghost, Ophelia</p> <p>(Narrator 2 goes to the left front corner of the stage. Hamlet goes in the middle of the stage and Horatio runs towards him)</p> <p>Narrator 2: One night Hamlet's friend, Horatio, tells him that there is a ghost in the castle</p>

	<p>(Horatio, frightened, touches Hamlet's arm to catch his attention)</p> <p>(The Ghost enters the scene and walks slowly towards Hamlet)</p> <p>(Horatio points at the Ghost with his finger. The Ghost stops when he reaches Hamlet)</p> <p>(As soon as the Ghost stops near Hamlet, Horatio runs away and exits the scene)</p> <p>Narrator 2: It is the ghost of Hamlet's father!</p> <p>Ghost: Claudius killed me with poison! Hamlet, you must punish Claudius for me!</p> <p>(The Ghost leaves)</p> <p>(Hamlet touches his head)</p> <p>Narrator 2: Hamlet is confused. He doesn't know if he believes the ghost and he doesn't know what to do.</p> <p>(Hamlet starts walking around and touches his chin)</p> <p>Narrator 2: Hamlet now acts very strangely. He is mean and angry, and he upsets his girlfriend, Ophelia.</p> <p>(Ophelia enters the scene, runs towards Hamlet and hugs him)</p> <p>(Hamlet pushes Ophelia away)</p> <p>Hamlet: Go away! Leave me alone!</p> <p>Ophelia: Oh, he is so mean!</p> <p>(Ophelia runs away exiting from one side and Hamlet walks away exiting the scene from the opposite side)</p>
SCENE 3	<p>The Actors, Hamlet, Claudius, Narrator 3</p> <p>(Narrator 3 goes to the left front corner of the stage. The Actors and Hamlet go in the middle, facing each other)</p> <p>(Hamlet and the Actors are talking without voice)</p> <p>Narrator 3: One day a group of actors come to the castle and Hamlet makes a plan. He asks the actors to change their play. The new play will show a king poisoned like Hamlet's father.</p> <p>(Hamlet steps in the middle, facing the public)</p> <p>Hamlet: With this play I will catch the king.</p> <p>(Hamlet goes besides the Narrator and looks at the scene)</p> <p>(Claudius enters and sits in the middle of the right side of the stage, looking at the Actors)</p> <p>(Actor 1 gives a cup to Actor 2, who drinks from the cup and falls dead on the floor.)</p> <p>Narrator 3: When Claudius watches the play he looks very worried and runs away. Hamlet sees him and he knows the truth.</p> <p>(Claudius looks around him, very worried, then stands up and runs out of the scene)</p> <p>(Hamlet runs near the Actors and points with his finger at the exit from where Claudius ran away)</p> <p>Hamlet: I knew it!</p> <p>(Everybody leaves)</p>
SCENE 4	<p>Narrator 4, Hamlet, Claudius, Laertes, Gertrude, Horatio</p> <p>(Narrator 4 goes in the left front corner of the main stage. Hamlet goes near the Narrator, while Claudius and Laertes go to the middle of the stage, talking at a low voice - indistinctly)</p> <p>Narrator 4: Claudius is very worried about Hamlet now and makes a plan with Ophelia's brother, Laertes.</p> <p>Claudius: You will fight him and we will put poison on the sword and in his drink too.</p> <p>(Gertrude enters and sits in the right side of the stage)</p> <p>(Claudius goes in the right side of the stage, sitting next to Gertrude, while Hamlet goes in the middle and starts fighting Laertes with swords.)</p> <p>Narrator 4: Laertes and Hamlet fight. Laertes cuts Hamlet, but in the fight Hamlet takes Laertes' sword and cuts him with it too!</p> <p>(Laertes cuts Hamlet. Hamlet touches the cut on his body, takes Laertes' sword and cuts him. Laertes lays down and slowly dies)</p> <p>Gertrude: Here, Hamlet, drink this.</p> <p>(Gertrude takes a cup in her hand)</p> <p>Hamlet: No, thank you, Mother. I'm not thirsty.</p> <p>(Gertrude drinks from the cup. Claudius looks at her)</p> <p>Claudius: No, don't!</p> <p>(Gertrude suffocates and dies)</p> <p>Hamlet: It was him! He poisoned us all!</p> <p>Narrator 4: Finally, Hamlet knows he must stop Claudius.</p> <p>(Hamlet goes to Claudius and kills him with the sword. Claudius dies. Hamlet falls on his knees and lays down pushing the hands on the cut on his body)</p> <p>(Horatio enters the scene running to help Hamlet. He sits down next to Hamlet and touches his hands)</p> <p>Narrator 4: All the royal family are now poisoned and Hamlet tells his friend that there must be a new king.</p>

Horatio: Goodbye, my prince.

(Curtain closes)