

Shakespeare coined many words and phrases that are now rare or obsolete—or that mean something else in contemporary usage. When he couldn't find the word to suit his purpose, he frequently made one up! It's not important to understand **every single** word or line that he wrote. What matters is that you enjoy the wonderful—and often playful—use of language.

Before you read/view *Hamlet*, take a look at the following list of words/phrases from the play.

Brainstorm possible definitions and use each word in a sentence.

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| 1. Shark up | 12. Drabbing |
| 2. Romage | 13. God-a-mercy |
| 3. Delated | 14. Tickle o' th' sere |
| 4. Winded suspiration of forced breath | 15. Fellies |
| 5. Betweenem | 16. Waned |
| 6. Thews | 17. Muddy-mettled |
| 7. Credent | 18. Quietus |
| 8. Recks not his own rede | 19. Bodkin |
| 9. Sits in the shoulder of your sail | 20. O what a rogue and peasant slave
am I |
| 10. Clepe us | |
| 11. Truepenny | |

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