

## 1 *Hamlet*

### Mandala: Sun/Shadow

- Using a character in Hamlet, you will explore both the outward (sun) and the inward (shadow) aspects of personality.
- The creation of a Sun/Shadow Mandala helps you to think symbolically. The process of comparing a character or an idea to archetypal symbols (an animal, a plant, an element, etc.), drawing the symbols, and then posing reasons for your choice leads you to a deeper understanding of the personality and motivations of a person or character from literature.
- Mandala's are represented in a circle, where the sun personality is on one half and the shadow is presented on the other half. Around the outside of the circle, words are written to represent the graphics you chose for the character.

**Brainstorm as many examples of the following as you can in 5 minutes.**

- Animals
- Plants
- Colors
- Shapes
- Numbers
- Gems/minerals
- Natural elements (any form of fire, air, earth, water)

**Answer each of the following questions. Look closely at the wording of the question.**

What animal is my character most like?

What plant is my character most like?

What color is my character most like?

What shape is my character most like?

What number is my character most like?

What gem or mineral is my character most like?

What natural element is my character most like?

The answers to those seven questions become the sun images for your mandala. **Put your answers in the column 1 on the table.**

**In column 2, write one or two words to describe the sun images.** After this column is completed you are ready to write your sentences for the sun image.

**Write a sentence for each of the specific sun symbols.** You may use the following core sentence as you think through the primary reason for selection each of your images:

“He is most like the (sun image) because, like the (sun image), he \_\_\_\_\_”

EXAMPLES: She is most like poison oak because, like poison oak, she is harmless until she is stepped on.  
Or He is most like a giraffe because, like a giraffe, his vision extends beyond his reach.

## 2 *Hamlet*

Mandala: Sun/Shadow

**After writing the sentences, it is time to move to the idea of opposites, or the shadow images.** The concept of shadow images arises from considering the place of dualities in literature. Looking at the quality you have ascribed to your animal images, **fill in column 3 with an antonym to your sun image in column 1.** Example: If your sun quality is intense such as a panther, your shadow quality might be lethargic like a cow. **In column 4 write the word that best exhibits the quality of the image in column 3. These are your shadow images.**

**Now write a sentence for each of your shadow images** using the following pattern: "Inwardly, he is like a (shadow image) because, like the (shadow image), he \_\_\_\_\_"

Example	<b>Column 1</b>  Sun image  outward personality	<b>Column 2</b>  Words describing column 1	<b>Column 3</b>  Shadow image inward personality  (Antonym for the word in column 1)	<b>Column 4</b>  Word describing column 3
Animal				
Plant				
Color				
Shape				
Number				
Gem or Mineral				
Natural element (earth, fire, water, air)				

### 3 *Hamlet*

Mandala: Sun/Shadow

**Draw a mandala – a circle that incorporates all the sun/shadow objects in a pleasing, artistic, colorful design.**

- Within the framework of the circle, using color and shape, but no words, draw or symbolize all the sun and shadow images of your character.
- Arrange them in any way you like.
- You may want to consider how you place things in relation to each other or you may want to consider only the way the colors and shapes look together.

**Frame the mandala with two sentences – Bordering the circle are two sentences that include all the sun/shadow images.**

- Write a single sentence using all of the character's sun images.
- See how you can weave all of these images together into one coherent sentence.
- Then, weave the character's shadow images into another coherent sentence
- Write both of these sentences around the outside of your mandala.

**Write the fourteen sun/shadow explanatory sentence along the sides of the mandala**

- On the rest of the circle are the fourteen explanatory sentences and your name, period, and date.
- There must not be any distracting errors in spelling, punctuation, or grammar.

**Write an essay of 350-450 words about the character stemming from you mandala work**