

Entry 140: *Taming of the Shrew*—Essay Topic

<p>Directions</p>	<p>Choose one of the topics provided for this assignment. Thoughtfully develop a five-paragraph essay using the writing guidelines outlined for this class. Both topics will require a thorough discussion of several kinds of humor included in the play:</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> <p>Verbal Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • puns • double entendre • word play • repartee • verbal irony • hyperbole </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> <p>Plot Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • situational irony • dramatic irony • twists / complications • deception • disguise • mistaken identity </td> <td style="vertical-align: top; width: 33%;"> <p>Character Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foolish characteristics • repeated characteristics <p>Physical Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • slapstick • gestures / movement • staging </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Verbal Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • puns • double entendre • word play • repartee • verbal irony • hyperbole 	<p>Plot Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • situational irony • dramatic irony • twists / complications • deception • disguise • mistaken identity 	<p>Character Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • foolish characteristics • repeated characteristics <p>Physical Humor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • slapstick • gestures / movement • staging
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<p>Topic One—Comedy Type</p> <p>Sample Thesis</p> <p>Model Thesis</p>	<p>The <i>Taming of the Shrew</i> eludes clear-cut classification as a comedy "type." It includes elements of farce, satire, black, and romantic comedy. Choose the two most likely types, and then explain how one of the two BEST captures the characters and interactions developed in the play. For this topic, your thesis might look something like this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While Shakespeare's <i>Taming of the Shrew</i> includes many elements of <u>farce</u>, these elements <u>actually work toward developing complicated love plots</u>, which make it a <u>romantic comedy</u>. • While Shakespeare's <i>Taming of the Shrew</i> includes many elements of <u>farce / satire / black comedy / romantic comedy</u>, these elements actually _____, which make it a <u>farce / satire / black comedy / romantic comedy</u>. 			
<p>Topic Two—Favorite Scene</p> <p>Sample Thesis</p> <p>Model Thesis</p>	<p>The <i>Taming of the Shrew</i> includes a variety of entertaining scenes. Choose a favorite scene from the play and discuss what makes it great. For this topic, your thesis might look something like this:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the <i>Taming of the Shrew</i>, Act ____, Scene ____, Shakespeare's use of <u>disguises, slapstick humor, and puns</u> help develop a <u>farcical scene that provokes belly laughs while still appealing to the intellect</u>. • In the <i>Taming of the Shrew</i>, Act ____, Scene ____, Shakespeare's use of _____, _____, and _____ help develop a/an _____ scene that _____. 			
<p>Thesis</p>	<p>Write your thesis neatly on the next blank page of your journal.</p>			
<p>Assertion Statements</p>	<p>Create three assertion statements that will set up your paragraphs to analyze, rather than summarize, the events of the scene.</p>			
<p>Quotations</p>	<p>Decide which quotations from the play best support your assertion statements. Indicate which two quotations you will use for each assertion. Write the first few words of each passage you plan to use, as well its act, scene, and line numbers (Act ____, Scene ____, lines _____).</p>			