

Familiar Phrases in *Hamlet*

Probably none of Shakespeare's plays has contributed more familiar phrases to our speech today than *Hamlet*. Here are a few of the most commonly used.

1. In my mind's eye.
2. Neither a borrower nor a lender be.
3. To thine own self be true,
And it must follow as the night the day,
Thou canst not then be false to any man.
4. Something is rotten in the state of Denmark.
5. There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio
Than are dreamt of in your philosophy.
6. Though this be madness, yet there is method in't.
7. There is nothing either good or bad, but thinking makes it so.
8. The play's the thing.
9. To be, or not to be; that is the question.
10. Thus conscience doth make cowards of us all.
11. Suit the action to the word, the word to the action.
12. I must be cruel, only to be kind.