Advice Column Writing Assignment
2 part assignment (2 daily grades)

Assignment #1- (1 daily grade) NOTE: This assignment must be done in full in order to do Assignment #2 (1 daily grade). Therefore, if you neglect to do Assignment #1 in full, you will not be able to do Assignment #2 and will receive a zero.

In the first act alone of *Hamlet*, several characters provide advice. Laertes advises Ophelia to think of Hamlet’s love as fleeting; Ophelia advises Laertes to practice what he preaches; Polonius provides a plethora of advice on character; Horatio advises Hamlet to proceed with caution concerning the ghost.

Now it is your turn to offer some advice and to seek guidance for a problem that you are facing or someone you know is facing and that one of the characters from the play is facing.

Assignment #1:

Letter #1: Write a letter seeking advice for a problem that you are currently going through or that you see will be a problem in the future or that someone you know is experiencing. The problem can relate to anything that is, of course, appropriate-school, family, friends, relationships, going to college, work, going into the military, etc. . .

**BE HONEST. YOUR LETTER WILL BE ANONYMOUS.** (Remember Polonius’ advice, “Thou canst not then be false to any man.”)

Letter #2: On the same page, skip a couple of lines and write another letter in which you pretend that you are a character from *Hamlet* who is seeking advice for a problem that has been addressed in Act 1 of the play. Make sure that your letter accurately reflects the content of the play (get the facts straight!). You must include 1 inverted sentence in your letter that you make up, so it cannot be an inverted sentence from the play (alter the syntax from subject-verb-complement). Identify your inverted sentence by bolding or highlighting it (5 pts.) If you do not identify it in your letter, you will not receive credit for it. You also must use at least 1 direct quote from Act 1 of the play to incorporate into your letter (10 pts.). The quote must be at least 3 or more words, and must be woven into your own words instead of “dumped” into your letter. **NOTE:** You are not allowed to use the quote that is in the example below.

**CORRECT USE OF QUOTE:**
Ex. Dear Wise One,
I have seen a ghost that may be my father, and I have decided that “be [it] a spirit of health or goblin damned,” I will do what it says. But do you think that I am overreacting? Should I listen to this spirit?

**INCORRECT USE OF QUOTE:**
Dear Wise One,
I have seen a ghost that may be my father, “be [it] a spirit of health or goblin damned.”

For Assignment #2, which will be assigned later, another one of your classmates from any of my English 4 classes will be given your letters to reply to with some advice for your problem and for the *Hamlet* character’s problem, and you will receive another student’s letters to offer some advice. This will be anonymous. The name of the student’s paper will not appear on the letters.

**Letter Writing Guidelines:**
- You will type your letters as a Google Doc. **DO NOT TYPE YOUR NAME ON YOUR LETTERS AND DO NOT PUT YOUR INITIALS OR NAME IN THE SUBMISSION TITLE.** Put Scott as the submission title. I will know whose paper it is through turnitin.
• Begin each letter with a salutation (Dear _________ (Peer, Advice-giver) ). (10 pts.- letter 1) (5 pts.- letter 2)
• Clearly explain the situation that led up to the problem (background information). 10 pts.
• Ask the specific questions for which you want advice. 10 pts.
• Both letters together must be at least 200 words or more. 10 pts.
• When ending each letter, give yourself a pseudonym for your real name and for the Hamlet character just like in the newspapers today (i.e. Sleepless in Seattle). Be creative! 10 pts.

You will be submitting to turnitin under a new class that you will need to enroll in.

- log in to your turnitin.com account
- select Enroll in a class (top left)
- Class ID- 17807860
- Password- secret

You will select the Anonymous class to submit your document with both letters on it. Remember to record your Submission ID, and don’t lose it! If you don’t get an ID, it didn’t work! Even if I see your final, typed letter, you will NOT get credit UNLESS it is submitted to turnitin.com or emailed to sendworktoscott@gmail.com if there is a problem with turnitin.

DUE: By 11:59 p.m. Friday, April 13 to turnitin.com- the Anonymous class. REMEMBER- USE SCOTT AS THE SUBMISSION TITLE.