ENG 4U0

**Character Analysis Group Brainstorming**

**(Preparation for Dramatic Monologue)**

Directions:

1. Before you begin, share contact information with your group (phone, email).
2. Then appoint one member of the group to do each of the following tasks:

* note-taker: writes group’s answers on the brainstorming page
* time-keeper: keeps track of time; makes sure that group stays on task
* question-asker and encourager: makes sure that all group members share opinions, ideas, and workload
* key-line searcher: searches the play for key-lines for where to insert your speeches

1. Complete the brainstorming / planning questions using your knowledge of the characters and plot.

Character: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**OVERALL ANALYSIS (for most or all of the play)**

Physical Description: (age, gender, body language, appearance)

Social rank: (where does your character stand in society? What’s their placement on the Great Chain of Being?

Family relationships (Who are their relatives? How do they interact with them?

Other important relationships (friendships? romances? enemies?)

What deadly sins do they commit, think about committing, or seem to commit?

What heavenly virtue do they most seem to have?

What is your character most afraid of? What would make your character sad and/or angry?

What does your character desire the most? What would make your character happy?

What are your character’s secrets?

Which elements, humours, and body parts are most associated with your character? (Circle one each)

* earth ❑ choler (anger) ❑ The head (reason, thought)
* air ❑ melancholy (sorrow) ❑ The heart (love, emotion)
* water ❑ blood (passion) ❑ The body (work, action)
* fire ❑ phlegm (depression) ❑ The liver (courage)

How does your character dress? What props might they need?

Overall conclusions about your character? What are the most important aspects of character development to include in your presentation?

**ACT-BY-ACT ANALYSIS:**

What are your character’s secrets?

Draw your character’s emotional arc over the course of the play. What do they feel at each major point in the play. What are their inner conflicts?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Before the play |  |
| Act I |  |
| Act II |  |
| Act III |  |
| Act IV |  |
| Act V |  |
| After the play |  |

* Identify pivotal moments in the play from before the curtain rises to just after the curtain falls.
* Identify a key-line (either spoken by or to your character) which marks the beginning of the each pivotal moment .
* Each group member should select a pivotal moment and matching key line. This moment is the point at which your dramatic monologue (somehow, inexplicably missing from Shakespeare’s version of the play) will be inserted.