

Epitaph Assignment

For this assignment you will create a tombstone and an epitaph for one of the deceased characters from *Hamlet*: Hamlet, King Claudius, Gertrude, Ophelia, Laertes, or Polonius.



An epitaph is the a prose or poetic form of words suited for inscription on a tomb. An epitaph may take the form of appeals from the dead to passers-by or of descriptions of the dead person's merits.

Your epitaph should capture the essence of your character by using descriptive words, phrases, and figurative language. The tone of your epitaph should match your attitude as a reader toward the character you write about. The language of your epitaph should appeal to the senses of the reader to help convey the real meaning of your character.

As you design the tombstone that publishes your epitaph, keep in mind the spirit of the character and the tone of your writing. Decorate the piece with themes and images that support your character's personality and station in life.