

Assessment 3: *Hamlet* FRQ 3 theme analysis

1. Works of literature often depict acts of betrayal. Friends and even family may betray a protagonist; main characters may likewise be guilty of treachery or may betray their own values. Consider such acts of betrayal in *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*. Then, in a well-written essay, analyze the nature of the betrayal and show how it contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.
2. One definition of madness is “mental delusion or the eccentric behavior arising from it.” But Emily Dickinson wrote, “Much madness is divinest Sense— / To a discerning Eye—.” Novelists and playwrights have often seen madness with a “discerning Eye.” Contemplate the role that Hamlet’s apparent madness plays in *The Tragedy of Hamlet, Prince of Denmark*. Then, write a well-organized essay in which you explain what this delusion or eccentric behavior consists of and how it might be judged reasonable. Explain the significance of the “madness” to the work as a whole.

Assessment 4: *As I Lay Dying* FRQ 3 theme analysis

3. In some works of literature, relationships between siblings create, clarify, or complicate central themes of the work. Choose a sibling relationship—positive or negative—in *As I Lay Dying* that functions to deepen a central theme. Write a well-organized essay in which you analyze how the sibling relationship contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.
4. In many works of literature, a physical journey—the literal movement from one place to another—plays a central role. Analyze how the physical journey is a crucial element of *As I Lay Dying* and discuss how the journey adds to the meaning of the work as a whole.

	Prompt Translated into Questions	Central Ideas & Themes
1		
2		
3		
4		