

SHAKESPEARE PLAYS
THEME ANALYSIS:

(TITLE OF PLAY) _____

NAME _____

DATE _____

Review the Glossary definition of *theme*. Then study the literary themes listed in the box.

bravery	loyalty	revenge	revolution	nature	hope
guilt	love	friendship	repentance	courage	war
madness	science	injustice	greed	regret	youth

Authors often want to deliver a message about their themes. This message, usually a deeply held belief, is expressed in the story or play.

Think about the play you just read. What theme or themes can you recognize? What was the main idea? What point was the author trying to make about that theme? What message was delivered?

Choose two or three themes from the box, or write your own. Then write a sentence explaining the author's belief about that theme. (This kind of sentence is called a *thematic statement*.)

EXAMPLE: *The Crucible*, by Arthur Miller

Theme: injustice

Thematic statement: Hasty judgment because of prejudice can have tragic consequences for innocent individuals.

THEME 1: _____

THEMATIC STATEMENT: _____

THEME 2: _____

THEMATIC STATEMENT: _____

THEME 3: _____

THEMATIC STATEMENT: _____
