Reader Response 4

Scene Analysis

**Directions:** Choose a scene that you found compelling/significant/interesting in the play.[[1]](#footnote-1) Read the scene closely. Spend some time thinking analyzing what is happening in that scene. Questions you may want to consider: How does help illuminate the rest of the play? Does it complicate or contradict something else in the play? Does it reveal, develop or complicate something about a character? Does it reveal, develop or complicate a theme from the play? How does it affect the plot? Are there things repeated within the scene or does this scene repeat other things from throughout the play? Etc…

**Writing the Response:**

1. Paragraph 1: Write one paragraph in which you **briefly** set up the scene (who is talking, where are they, when, what in general is happening) and then spend the bulk of the paragraph **discussing why this scene is significant** in the play. Use examples from the text to prove your point. You may want to consider some of the questions above if you are struggling with why this scene is significant.
2. Paragraph 2: Watch the film version of this scene. (ICON link to the full version) Watch the scene a few times. **Write a paragraph in which you analyze how the director and actors portrayed this scene**. Treat this like a “text” in that you should go beyond just describing how the scene is done to talking about the significance of how it is done. Also use specific examples about what is happening on screen when analyzing the film version. Questions to consider: what “spin” does this scene take on the text as written? Where are characters placed in relation to each other? Costuming? Lighting? Staging? Facial expressions? Body language/touching? What is the effect that the director was going for in this scene? Does it work? You could compare this scene with how you initially imagined the scene playing out in your head. Or, perhaps more interesting would be to discuss to what extent the director interpreted the scene the way you did, and to what extent his interpretation differed. (A director interprets the text in every choice he/she makes in how the play is acted, staged, etc.)

**This response should be 1-2 pages. Submit to ICON by due date.**

1. For this assignment please do **NOT** pick a scene we have already viewed on film and discussed in class. Since the play is not broken up clearly into scenes, use your discretion on deciding when a scene begins/ends. Because this is a short assignment, limit yourself to a few pages even if the scene technically extends longer. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)