

## Theatre III-IV

### Shakespeare – Monologue assignment

1. Type your piece in your computer – double spaced. Heading – Character, Play, Act #, Scene # - print 4 copies

#### Copy 1 – Scansion and notes on lines that don't fit the meter

- a. Scan the piece. Write the scansion above each line.
- b. Note irregular scansion. What does that tell you (the actor) to do? What does it tell you about the character?

#### Copy 2 – Language/Imagery and Definitions

- a. Be sure you understand the piece. Look up any words you don't understand in the lexicon and/or dictionary. Write the definitions for all words you are not completely sure of.
- b. Circle the operative words (most important words in each line – no more than 2).
- c. Reference your Deciphering Shakespeare notes. Make note of any of these that occur in your monologue:

Metaphor

Simile

Personification

Antithesis

Repetition

Parody

Alliteration

Assonance

Both alliteration and assonance

Onomatopoeia

Lists

Verse

Rhyme

Rhetoric

Puns

Irony

Oxymoron

Malapropism

#### Copy 3 – Transitions, Pauses, Breaths

- a. Mark transitions – shifts where there is an idea change (beat change)
- b. Caesura – Pause at idea breaks to help the line make sense
- c. Mark your breaths. 3 slashes long breath 2 shorter 1 brief (Judi Dench says you have to earn your breaths, and sometimes you do)

#### Copy 4 – Score with Strong Tactics

- a. Remember – tactics are VERBS – how do you want your imaginary scene partner to react?
- b. Write a tactic for each beat (idea section)

**Separate Sheet #1 - Actor Questions:** *Answer the following in complete sentences, in first person point of view as your character.*

Who are you talking to?

What has just happened?

Why are you saying this to this person at this moment?

What do you want?

What do you expect to happen next?

**Separate sheet # 2 – Script Report** (worth 24 points)