ERWC – Module 4 Value of Life

Activity 4: Annotations

Write lines from the soliloquy where Hamlet comments on what it means to be alive. Add at least 5 to the chart.	_	Paraphrase the line – use your own words.
EXAMPLE: "the slings and arrows of outrages fortune," lines 2-3		Hamlet compares being alive to having fate shoot arrows at you.

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Thinking Critically

- 1. Does the soliloquy form seem to favor the expression of emotion (pathos) or logic (logos)? Explain why you think so.
- 2. Does Hamlet's soliloquy use emotion, or pathos, to create a specific effect on the reader? If so, describe how emotion is used.

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3. Does Hamlet's soliloquy use logic, or logos, to create a specific effect on the reader? If so, describe how the logic is used.

- 4. When Hamlet speaks his soliloquy, he is in crisis. How do his circumstances position Hamlet to speak with authority (ethos) about value of life? Does Hamlet seem to be speaking about his own life in particular or about the quality of life in general?
- 5. As careful readers, we are of course aware that it's not really Hamlet speaking, but a character created by William Shakespeare. Does Shakespeare seem like someone whose opinions and attitudes are worth considering? Why?