

BM1, SoSe 2010, ASSIGNMENT 2 – Analysing Drama

Please make sure to submit your assignment stapled together and with punch holes on the left, but not bound in any kind of folder or wrapping. Every assignment must include a “title-page” and the statement on plagiarism.

Analyse the following passage from *King Lear* : Act I, Sc. 1, ll. 269-309 (“Bid farewell to your sisters.” – “We must do something, and i'the heat.”).

(NOTE: The text is specified according to the Arden edition, 3rd series, ed. R.A. Foakes)

Please analyse this text, addressing the following tasks and questions. You may write up to *three* pages of text, according to the formatting specifications of our style sheet (http://www.anl-am.uni-oldenburg.de/downloads/leitfaden_wiss_arb_wise_09-10.pdf). Any text beyond the first three pages will be ignored. Also, there will be a deduction of at least 10% if your paper does not conform to the style sheet.

Close Analysis of the Passage:

(Bear in mind the connections between the following individual aspects.)

1. Dramatic Communication and Topic (20 points): Divide the passage into two sections and give a structured summary of each section based on an analysis of the changes in both dramatic communication and topic.

2. Characterisation (30 points): In the given passage, what do you find out about

(a) Cordelia (10 points)?

(b) Goneril and Regan (10 points)?

(c) Lear (10 points)?

In order to address this task, identify different techniques of characterisation and analyse their effect. On this basis, comment on the relationship between the characters.

3. Rhetoric (20 points): Contrast the stylistic levels of the two sections. State your evidence. How does the change in stylistic levels relate to your findings in questions (1) and (2)?

4. Wider Context (30 points): Name one other passage in the same play which corresponds or contrasts with the current passage **in one particular aspect** (e.g. dramatic communication, characterisation, etc.). Briefly describe the nature and significance of the correspondence or contrast between the two passages and relate this to **one of the central themes** of the drama.