**Madness**

**In the play Hamlet pretends to be mad so as to find out the truth regarding his father's death and the involvement of the new King Claudius. Polonius falsely considers Hamlet's madness comes from his love of Ophelia and his failure to get her in his life. But in the course of the play, Hamlet's behavior becomes more random and ambiguous. His acting madness seems to cause Hamlet to lose his control on reality. He cannot control his irregular behaviour in the palace. The circumstances he has to manage emotionally are difficult for him. His pretense of becoming mad costs him a lot. The physical violence under extreme stress shows that Hamlet has deeper-set issues than merely acting mad.**

**Ophelia’s madness**

**She is in opposition to Hamlet’s madness for she does not vacillate smoothly between brilliance and insanity as Hamlet does. Unlike Hamlet’s madness, Ophelia’s madness does not arouse the court's curiosity. Claudius points out in act IV that her madness is because of deep grief for his father's death. The reality is that she is murdered by Hamlet her perfect love. He is responsible for her downfall as she committed a suicide. Her madness is due to her irrational thinking. Her pain increases and she has lost everything. Her suicide is a complete failure of rationalism.**