

Claudius's Plans for Hamlet Jigsaw Tool

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Directions: Read the text in the left column and work in your small groups to answer the questions in the right column. Share out with the class and take notes on this tool.

Act 3.1, Lines 176–189	Questions
<p>KING</p> <p>Love? His affections do not that way tend; Nor what he spake, though it lacked form a little, Was not like madness. There's something in his soul O'er which his melancholy sits on brood, And I do doubt the hatch and the disclose 180 Will be some danger; which for to prevent, I have in quick determination Thus set it down: he shall with speed to England For the demand of our neglected tribute. Haply the seas, and countries different, 185 With variable objects, shall expel This something-settled matter in his heart, Whereon his brains still beating puts him thus From fashion of himself. What think you on 't?</p> <p>Vocabulary</p> <p>melancholy (n.) – a gloomy state of mind; depression neglected (adj.) – not given enough attention or care tribute (n.) – a stated sum or other valuable consideration paid by one sovereign, or state in acknowledgement of subjugation or as the price of peace, security, protection, or the like expel (v.) – to push or force (something) out</p>	<p>How does Claudius characterize Hamlet's state of mind? What does he think is causing this? (lines 176–179)</p> <p>What does Claudius fear may “hatch” (line 180) from Hamlet's “melancholy” (line 179)?</p> <p>How does he hope to “prevent” this? (lines 181–184)</p> <p>What does Claudius plan for Hamlet to do there? How will this help? (lines 184–187)</p>