

Hamlet notes **Act V, Scene I**

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1. What has been decided about Ophelia's burial? How do the commoners feel about this?
2. What is the substance of the jokes of the clowns, i.e., what serious issue lies beneath them?
3. What is the theme of the gravedigger's song?
4. What is the significance of the mention of Cain by Hamlet for a theme that continues throughout the scene?
5. About what specific theme do the bones and skulls make Hamlet think?

6. What is Hamlet's reaction to the skull of Yorick, the jester?
7. What is the meaning of Hamlet's meditations on Alexander and Caesar?
8. What is the point of Laertes's conversation with the priest?
9. What does Laertes do at the graveside? What does this show about him?
10. What does Hamlet do when he sees this? Why?
11. What are Hamlet's and Laertes's reactions to each other in this scene?