Annotate Hamlet’s monologue with regard to the following:

* Unknown words (look up their definitions)
* Patterns in word choice, syntax, and literary devices (and their effect)
* Inferences about Hamlet’s state of mind
* Theme

I have of late—but wherefore I know not--lost all my mirth, forgone

All custom of exercises; and indeed it goes so heavily with my

disposition that this goodly frame, the earth, seems to me a sterile

promontory, this most excellent canopy, the air, look you, this brave  
o'erhanging firmament, this majestical roof fretted with golden fire,

why, it appears no other thing to me than a foul and pestilent

congregation of vapours. What a piece of work is a man! how noble

in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form and moving how express

and admirable! in action how like an angel! in apprehension how

like a god! the beauty of the world! the paragon of animals! And

yet, to me, what is this quintessence of dust? man delights not  
me: no, nor woman neither, though by your smiling you seem to

say so.

Act II. sc ii. lines 292-308

Write an analysis paragraph in which you respond to the following question:

**How does Shakespeare use literary devices to communicate the theme of Hamlet’s monologue?**

Your paragraph should include these things:

* A topic sentence that makes a claim in response to the prompt question.
* Quotes that exemplify literary devices (embed them)
* Identification of literary devices and analysis of how their effect contributes to the theme
* A concluding sentence that addresses the “so what” of your paragraph