Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Watson, Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“What a piece of work is man”

*Directions: Read and annotate the following speech from* Hamlet*. Then “translate” it into more modern English. Be completely faithful to the original text and DO NOT use an internet “translation,” do it yourself.*

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 but a foul and pestilent congregation of vapors. What a piece of work is a man! How noble in reason! how infinite in faculty! in form, in 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…

*Your Translation:*