Claudius’ Soliloquy ActIII iii Questions

1. In the line “my offence is rank. It smells to heaven.” The word *rank* most likely means. (TEK – 1B)
2. Harsh
3. Punishable
4. Odorous
5. Invalid
6. In line 2, Claudius says that his offence has the “primal eldest curse upon’t, a (TEK – 5A/Fig.19/1B)

brother’s murder.” (TEK – 5A/Fig.19/1B)

This is a reference to the Biblical story of Cain, a man who killed his brother out of jealousy.

A reference to something from the bible is called \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Metaphor
2. allusion
3. foreshadowing
4. flashback

Read the following lines and answer the questions:

“What if this cursed hand Were thicker than itself with brother’s blood? Is there not rain enough in

the sweet heavens To wash it white as snow?”

1. The image of Claudius’ hands being coated with his brother’s blood suggests Claudius is feeling: (TEK – 4)
2. Dirty
3. Satisfied
4. Vengeful
5. Guilty
6. What does Claudius want in these lines? (TEK – 4/5A)
7. He is hoping that God will show mercy and forgive him his sin
8. He is hoping that God will help him get rid of Hamlet
9. He is hoping that God will help keep his secret from Gertrude
10. He is hoping that God will bring rain to Denmark
11. The image “white as snow” is appropriate here because it is most often associated with: (TEK – 1B)
12. Innocence
13. Cleanliness
14. Similes
15. Cold
16. Claudius doubts that any “form of prayer can serve [his] turn” because he is “still possessed (TEK –5A/B )

of those effects for which [he] did the murder.” What does he mean by this?

1. He hasn’t been accused of the crime yet
2. He is really glad he committed the murder
3. He still has the kingdom and the queen
4. Hamlet doesn’t see him as his new father
5. “Oh bosom black as death! O limed soul that, struggling to be free, Art more engaged” (TEK – Fig.19)

contains what type(s) of figurative language?

1. Simile
2. Imagery
3. Personification
4. All of the above
5. This soliloquy bears an element of suspense because: (TEK – 5A/Fig.19/1B)
6. We know Claudius is planning on killing Hamlet
7. We know Gertrude will soon find out Claudius has killed her first husband
8. We know that Hamlet is listening and has plans to exact revenge on Claudius
9. We know that God will never grant Claudius forgiveness—He is too evil.
10. What is the significance of the following lines: (TEK – 5A/Fig.19/1B)

“Bow, stubborn knees, and heart with strings of steel, Be soft as sinews of the newborn babe”

1. It shows how cruel Claudius is
2. It shows personification
3. It shows Claudius’ inability to pray
4. Both b and c
5. Dramatic Irony is a situation in which the audience knows more than the character does. (TEK – 5A/Fig.19/1B)

How is this situation in the confessional an example of dramatic irony?

1. We are the only ones who know that Claudius has killed King Hamlet
2. We know that Hamlet is listening nearby and is planning to kill Claudius
3. We know that Ophelia has gone crazy and has drowned herself
4. None of the Above