**Notes: Shakespeare-Tragedy**

I. In Shakespeare's time, the term 'tragedy' was applied to both stories or events involving calamity and suffering.

II. It is difficult to define 'Shakespearean Tragedy' because he wrote various 'tragedies':
- Titus Andronicus is a tragedy of blood or a revenge tragedy modelled upon Senecan Tragedy.
- Richard II and Richard III are English History plays.
- Julius Caesar, Antony and Cleopatra, and Coriolanus are Roman Tragedies.
- Romeo and Juliet and Troilus and Cressida are tragedies that spring out of love stories.
- Shakespeare's great tragedies Hamlet, Othello, King Lear, and Macbeth are not closely linked to previous models or historical events.

III. Shakespeare's tragic characters search the cause and significance of their suffering.

William Shakespeare: Comedies, Histories, and Tragedies. Professor Peter Saccio,