**Word Study** - Hamlet's Soliloquy "To be or not to be", *Hamlet*, 3.1

Many of the following words and phrases are referenced in the Folger edition of *Hamlet*. Note the meanings of the words and phrases in the spaces below. Find the etymologies (word histories) for specific words in print dictionaries or online sources.

1. line 73 - rub  
   meaning:
   etymology:

2. line 75 - shuffled off this mortal coil  
   meaning:

3. line 77 - makes calamity of so long life  
   meaning:

4. line 80 - despised  
   meaning:
   etymology:

5. line 81 - office  
   meaning:

6. line 83 - his quietus make  
   meaning:

7. line 84 - bare bodkin  
   meaning:
   etymology:

8. line 84 - fardels  
   meaning:
   etymology:

9. line 87 - undiscovered  
   meaning:
10. line 87 - bourn  
   meaning:  
   etymology:  

11. line 88 - puzzles  
   meaning:  
   etymology:  

12. line 91 - conscience  
   meaning:  
   etymology:  

13. line 92 - native hue  
   meaning:  

14. line 93 - cast  
   meaning:  

15. line 94 - pitch  
   meaning:  

16. line 94 - moment  
   meaning:  

17. line 95 - With this regard  
   meaning:  

18. line 95 - their currents turn awry  
   meaning:  

19. line 96 - Soft you now  
   meaning:  

20. line 97 - orisons  
   meaning:  

Researching etymologies will generate questions about words and phrases that are idiomatic and archaic. Abbreviations such as ME for Middle English and OFr. for Old French can be referenced and explained as well. This is an interesting way to introduce a discussion about our living and dynamic language. The words orisons, meaning prayer, is an archaic usage and may be found in the Oxford English Dictionary.