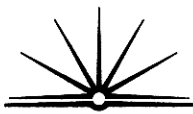


1. Question 1 - Elective 1: Transformations.

William Shakespeare's Hamlet and Tom Stoppard's Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, both have different contexts and different values associated with each text. In studying both these texts, the extent of this point of view has been immense.

Hamlet, was written in Elizabethan times and the values relayed in the play are significant to ~~the~~ that era. The play is set in Denmark and revolves around the royal family. Hamlet, the prince of Denmark is ~~being~~ avenging his father's murder by his Uncle Claudius.

Claudius killed King Hamlet and married Gertrude to take over the throne. Young Hamlet sees the ghost of his father which enrages him to want to get revenge and kill Claudius. In trying to do so he kills a few others on the way.



Treachery and treason were thought to be major crimes in that era. Religion was something that was extremely valued and the people believed that they must confess all their sins so they could be forgiven and go to heaven. In modern times people are more sceptical about religion but there are still many devotees to Christ.

In Tom Stoppard's more contemporary play, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, different issues and values are exerted. This play has many of the same values as Hamlet, but at the same time the ~~the~~ main issues are different. This play revolves around ~~the~~ Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, ~~and~~ not the Royal family in particular. King Claudius sends Rosencrantz and Guildenstern with Hamlet and a letter to the King of England. What Rosencrantz and Guildenstern don't know is that the



letter is instructing England to execute Hamlet. Somehow, Hamlet finds the letter and changes the names to Rosencrantz and Guildenstern. This plays values are more of staying alive than in the play Hamlet.

Both Hamlet and Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead have different values and contexts associated with the texts.