

HAMLET
READING COMPREHENSION
ACT 4
YEAR 5 AND 6

1. Why can't Claudius punish Hamlet? Write down two reasons

i.

ii.

2. Where is Claudius going to send Hamlet?

3. A. Does Hamlet seem upset by being sent to England?

YES NO

B. Write down a direct quote that justifies your answer

4. Claudius writes a letter to the English king

A. What does he ask the English king to do to Hamlet?

B. Who does he give the letter to?

5. If you were Rosencrantz or Guildenstern would you open the letter and read it?

YES NO

Explain your answer

6. Who rushes back to Denmark convinced Claudius has killed their dad?

Ophelia

Hamlet

Laertes

Hortio

7. 'Claudius is desperate to know, is Laertes going to have vengeance on everyone, or just Polonius's enemies'

A. What does 'to have vengeance on' mean? Tick one box

To seek revenge

To seek forgiveness

B. Why do you think Claudius is 'desperate to know' what Laertes is going to do?

C. Write down the two things that Laertes says that show what he is going to do

i.

ii.

8. What happened to Hamlet on his way to England?

He fell overboard and drowned

He was captured by pirates and sold to another ship

He was captured by pirates who are bringing him back to Denmark

He met some new friends

9. How do we, the reader, know what has happened to Hamlet?

10. A. Write down one word that best describes how Claudius talks to Laertes and convinces him to have a sword fight against Hamlet

B. What does Laertes say he'll do to his sword?

C. Write down a direct quote from the text that supports your answer

11. What is Claudius back up plan if Laertes' plan to kill Hamlet fails?

12. What news does Gertrude come rushing in with?

13. Put the events of Act 4 in order

Laertes hears that his father has been killed and returns to Denmark

Hamlet is sent to England

Laertes and Claudius plot to kill Hamlet once and for all

Hamlet is captured by some pirates who are bringing him back to Denmark

Ophelia drowns

HAMLET
READING COMPREHENSION
ACT 4
YEAR 5 AND 6
ANSWERS

1. **Why can't Claudius punish Hamlet? Write down two reasons**

The Danish people love Hamlet
Hamlet might reveal who killed Old Hamlet

2. **Where is Claudius going to send Hamlet?**

England

3. **A. Does Hamlet seem upset by being sent to England?**

NO

- B. Write down a direct quote that justifies your answer**

"Good, Farewell, Dear Mother. Come for England!"

4. **Claudius writes a letter to the English king**

- A. What does he ask the English king to do to Hamlet?**

Kill him

- B. Who does he give the letter to?**

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern

5. **If you were Rosencrantz or Guildenstern would you open the letter and read it?**

YES NO

Explain your answer

Answer depends on what the child has said above and justifications will vary but might include YES- because Claudius is not to be trusted/they are Hamlet's friends so I would want to protect him or NO-I'm scared of Claudius and can see what he's like/I believe Hamlet has gone mad and Claudius wants the best for him/Claudius is King etc.

6. **Who rushes back to Denmark convinced Claudius has killed their dad?**

Laertes

7. 'Claudius is desperate to know, is Laertes going to have vengeance on everyone, or just Polonius's enemies'

D. What does 'to have vengeance on' mean? Tick one box

To seek revenge

E. Why do you think Claudius is 'desperate to know' what Laertes is going to do?

Because he's worried about himself and whether Laertes is going to kill him

F. Write down the two things that Laertes says that show what he is going to do

"To his good friends thus wide I'll open my arms"

"But his enemies, I'll be revenged most thoroughly for my father"

8. What happened to Hamlet on his way to England?

He was captured by pirates who are bringing him back to Denmark

9. How do we, the reader, know what has happened to Hamlet?

Horatio receives a letter from him/he writes a letter to Horatio

10.A. Write down one word that best describes how Claudius talks to Laertes and convinces him to have a sword fight against Hamlet
flattery

B. What does Laertes say he'll do to his sword?

Put poison on it

C. Write down a direct quote from the text that supports your answer

"I'll anoint my sword, that if I gall him slightly it may be death"

11. What is Claudius back up plan if Laertes' plan to kill Hamlet fails?

Put poison in a drink for Hamlet to drink when he gets hot and tired from fighting

12. What news does Gertrude come rushing in with?

Ophelia has drowned

13. Put the events of Act 4 in order

Laertes hears that his father has been killed and returns to Denmark 2

Hamlet is sent to England 1

Laertes and Claudius plot to kill Hamlet once and for all 3

Hamlet is captured by some pirates who are bringing him back to Denmark 4

Ophelia drowns 5

