

HAMLET
READING COMPREHENSION
ACT 2
YEAR 3 AND 4

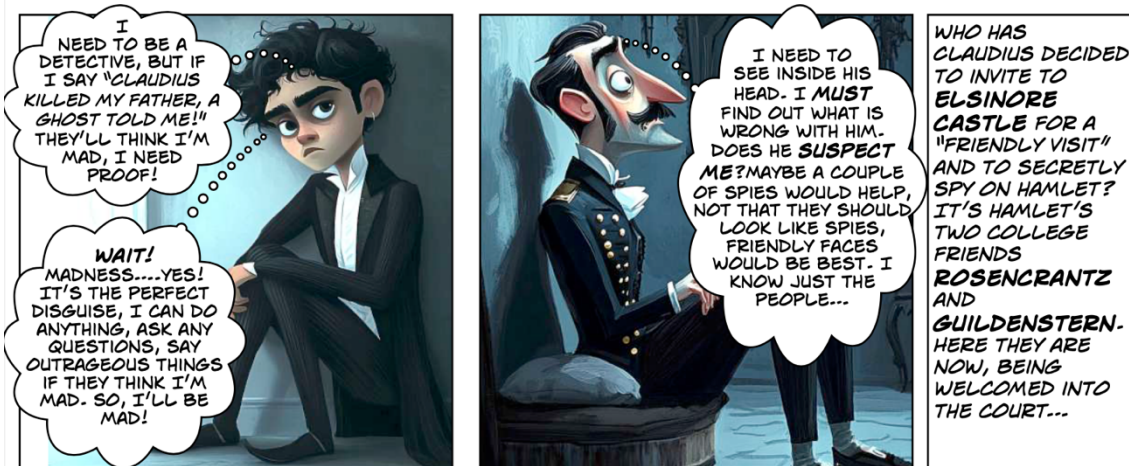
1. RECAP ON CHARACTERS

Draw a line from the character to their description

Hamlet	Hamlet's mum, recently married to his uncle, Claudius
Laertes	Hamlet's creepy, horrible uncle and now his "new dad"
Ophelia	Hamlet's best friend
Claudius	Polonius' son/Ophelia's brother
Gertrude	Polonius' daughter/ Laerte's sister
Horatio	Claudius' advisor/Ophelia and Laerte's dad
Polonius	Hamlet's dad, who has come back as a ghost to tell Hamlet he was killed by Claudius
Old Hamlet	The title character whose father has been killed and is out to seek revenge



AS WE BEGIN ACT 2, HAMLET IS STARTING TO COME UP WITH A PLAN, BUT SO IS CLAUDIUS!



2. What is Hamlet going to do to try and find out whether it's true that Claudius killed his dad? Tick one box

He will ask Gertrude, his mum

He will ask Claudius

He will pretend to be mad so he can ask questions

3. A. Why does Claudius want to "see inside" Hamlet's head? Tick two boxes

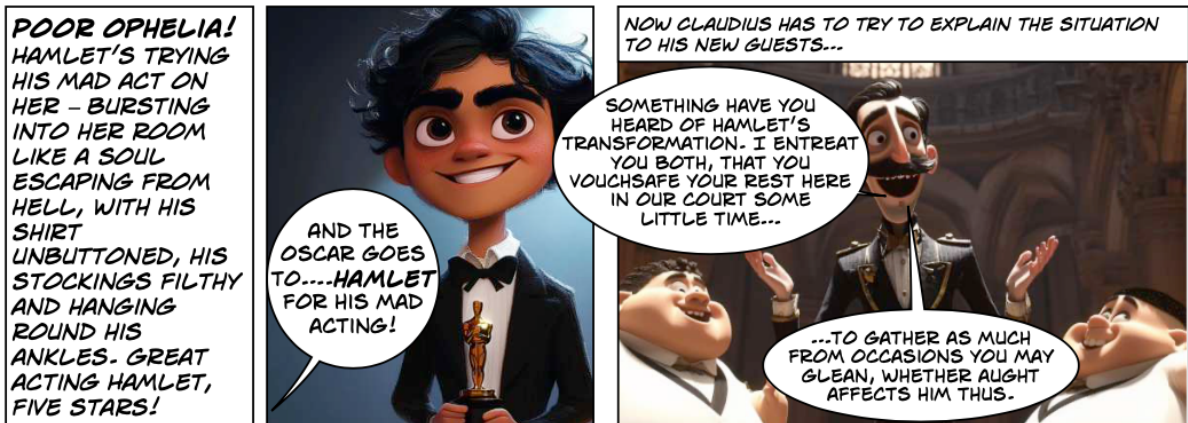
To try and become his friend

To find out what is wrong with him

To find out if he suspects him

To see what colour his hair is

4. Write down the two names of Hamlet's friends who Claudius invites to Elsinore Castle for a "friendly visit"



ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE SHOCKED AT THE NEWS THAT HAMLET IS SO CHANGED. AND, WHEN THE KING ASKS THEM TO STAY AND TRY TO FIND OUT WHY HE'S CHANGED CLAUDIUS SOUNDS SO CONCERNED THAT THE TWO FRIENDS FEEL QUITE WORRIED.

5. Who “bursts through the door in tears”?

6. Why is Polonius “furious”?

7. A. How is Ophelia feeling? Tick one box

Happy Scared

Worried Sick

B. Which word is a synonym for “scared” Tick one box

Excited Frightened

Jealous Sick

8. Where was Ophelia when Hamlet “burst in”?

9. What is Hamlet really doing?

10. A. Why are Rosencrantz and Guildenstern so “shocked”?

B. Complete the sentence below, copying directly from the text

Claudius sounds so concerned that the two friends feel

quite _____

**11. Do you think that Claudius is worried about Hamlet?
Give a reason for your answer**



12. Write down the two words that describe how Hamlet feels about Rosencrantz and Guildenstern visiting?

13. How did Hamlet know that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were “up to something”? Tick one box

- | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Their guilty faces | <input type="checkbox"/> | They went red in the face | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| They told him | <input type="checkbox"/> | Polonius told him | <input type="checkbox"/> |

14. Who interrupts Hamlet, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern?

Claudius Gertrude Polonius Ophelia

15. “My Lord I have news to tell you”

What is the news?

16. Why is Hamlet pleased the actors are here? Tick one box

- He’s bored
- He doesn’t have tv, internet or Netflix
- He has a plan
- He likes theatre

17. Do you think Hamlet is doing a good job of pretending to be mad? Tick one box and justify your answer below, with reference to the text.

YES **NO**

HAMLET

READING COMPREHENSION

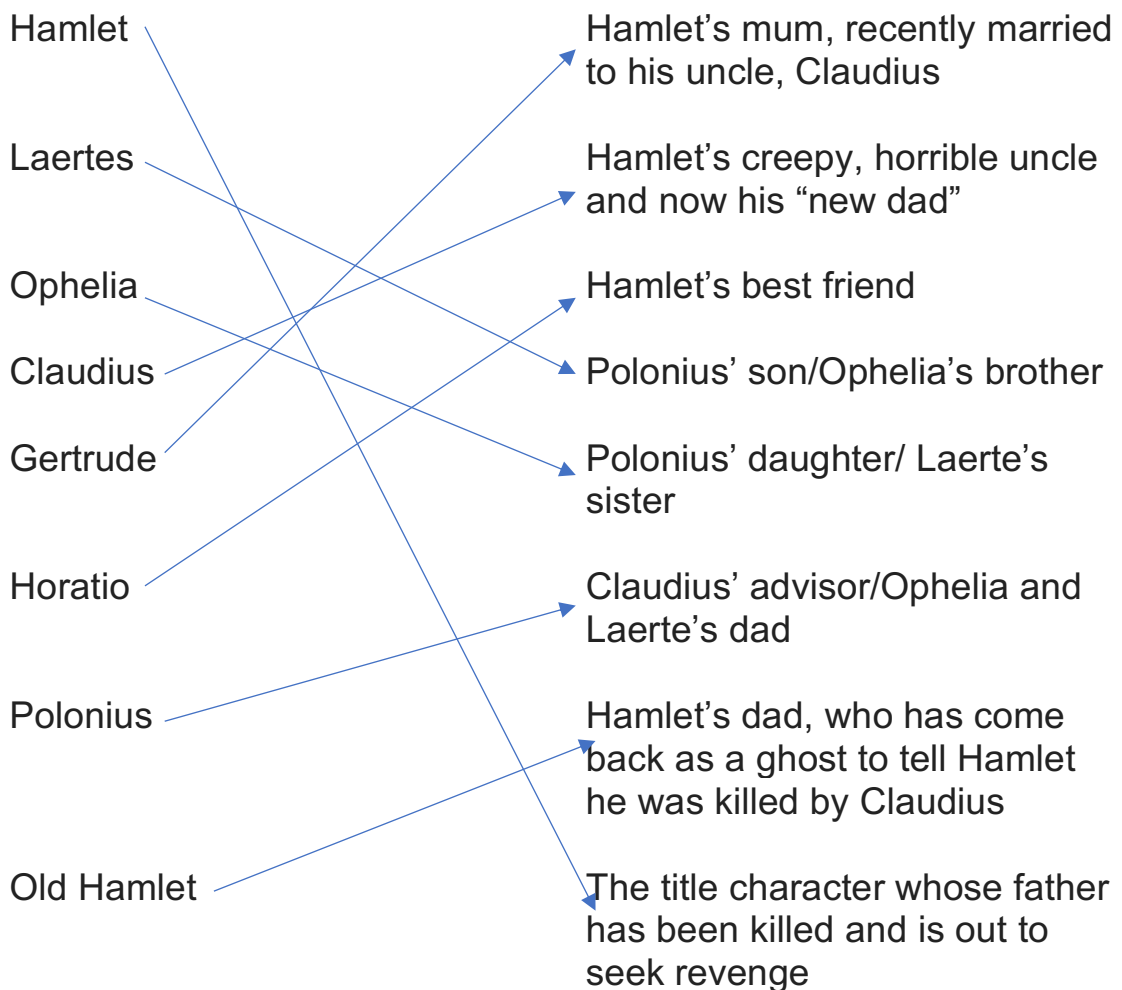
ACT 2

YEAR 3 AND 4

ANSWERS

1. RECAP ON CHARACTERS

Draw a line from the character to their description



2. What is Hamlet going to do to try and find out whether it's true that Claudius killed his dad? Tick one box

He will pretend to be mad so he can ask questions

3. A. Why does Claudius want to "see inside" Hamlet's head? Tick two boxes

To find out what is wrong with him

To find out if he suspects him

4. Write down the two names of Hamlet's friends who Claudius invites to Elsinore Castle for a "friendly visit"

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern

5. Who "bursts through the door in tears"?

Ophelia

6. Why is Polonius "furious"?

Any of the following: She's showing up/That's not the way to behave/you don't burst into the King's throne room like that

7. A. How is Ophelia feeling? Tick one box

Scared

B. Which word is a synonym for "scared" Tick one box

Frightened

8. Where was Ophelia when Hamlet "burst in"?

Her chamber/her bedroom

9. What is Hamlet really doing?

Pretending to be mad/acting mad

10.A. Why are Rosencrantz and Guildenstern so "shocked"?

That Hamlet has changed so much

C. Complete the sentence below, copying directly from the text
*Claudius sounds so concerned that the two friends feel quite **worried***

11. Do you think that Claudius is worried about Hamlet? Give a reason for your answer

No, he just wants to make sure he doesn't suspect him of killing Old Hamlet.

12. Write down the two words that describe how Hamlet feels about Rosencrantz and Guildenstern visiting?

shocked

suspicious

13. How did Hamlet know that Rosencrantz and Guildenstern were "up to something"? Tick one box

Their guilty faces

14. Who interrupts Hamlet, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern?

Polonius

15. "My Lord I have news to tell you"

What is the news?

That a group of Actors have arrived to perform a play

16. Why is Hamlet pleased the actors are here? Tick one box

He has a plan

17. Do you think Hamlet is doing a good job of pretending to be mad? Tick one box and justify your answer below, with reference to the text.

YES **NO**

Any number of reasons from the text but main gist is that people are scared/worried around him, e.g Ophelia comes in crying, Polonius is a bit scared when he comes to tell him the actors have come/Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are worried and shocked by his behaviour.