



HAMLET

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

STAGE 2
A2
YOUNG ADULT READERS

ACTIVITY

Choose the right verb for the space (A), (B) or (C).

Claudius: My friend, 1 bad news; Hamlet 2 Polonius. 3 to throw away the body. 4 and find him. Be nice to him and bring the body back to the small church in the castle. Come Gertrude, 5 and ask our friends for some advice. We must 6 the world of this murder and keep Denmark safe.

- | | | |
|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 A I've got | B you watch | C I'm looking for |
| 2 A will kill | B has killed | C kill |
| 3 A He must now | B He makes | C He's now trying |
| 4 A Wait | B Go | C Listen |
| 5 A we'll go | B they'll go out | C now go |
| 6 A to tell | B telling | C tell |



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TEST YOURSELF

Can you remember these people?

- 1 Old friends of Hamlet's. They spent time together as students in Germany.
- 2 Brother of the woman who Hamlet says he loves; son of the man who Hamlet kills.
- 3 Old man, father of a son, a friend of the Prince of Denmark, and a daughter, who went mad for love. He is killed by the Prince of Denmark.
- 4 Mother of the Prince of Denmark. Married to her dead husband's brother. Loves her son, but he is very angry with her.
- 5 Young prince, loved by his people and has a lot of friends. Believes his uncle killed his father to become king. He makes everyone think he is mad, and perhaps he is...
- 6 Young woman who loves Hamlet, but when Hamlet kills her father and tells her he doesn't love her, she doesn't want to live.

- A Polonius
- B Gertrude
- C Hamlet
- D Rosencrantz and Guildenstern
- E Laertes
- F Ophelia



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Key (KET) – Writing

Work in pairs. One of you reads the information about the play. The other asks questions, using the prompts below.

Come and See the Play
The Murder of Gonzago

At Elsinore Castle
Tonight, after dark

Tickets are free, but arrive early to get a seat.

New words by the Prince of Denmark!

- name / play?
- where?
- when?
- tickets?
- other information?



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FOCUS ON...

HAMLET IN TODAY'S SOCIETY

For the first time in Britain, an all-black cast present Shakespeare's greatest tragedy, Hamlet. Mark Norfolk has adapted the play, casting Hamlet as a young black student who is bound to confront the realities of his society, and rages against the injustice of his position. The inspiration came in part by his work with young criminals, many of whom he feels are facing the same problem as Hamlet: they've had familial traumas, and are facing the rapid pace of an ever capitalist society - like the dynamic nation Hamlet finds himself in - and feel isolated and left behind.

