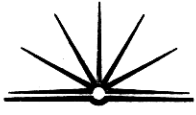


Qn 1:

lective  
1:

When William Shakespeare wrote his play "Hamlet" it was the 1600s. He wrote his play to be performed not only for the peasants, but also the royals. When Tom Stoppard wrote "Rosencrantz & Guildenstern are dead" it was the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, it was also the time of "average" people & the time of "the theatre of the absurd." As a result of this each play is significantly relevant & suited to their time. And each text ~~do~~ has a set of ideas that were understood & identified with by the audience.

Hamlet is the central



Q1:  
Q2:

Character

of a play with his name.

A prince who has a long list of problems, the audience is not only meant to hear

all about these problems,

but is likely they are meant to sympathise too. At a time

when royalty was admired & held the most importance this

may not have been hard, but

in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century it <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ the average man who was more

numbered in support as it is

likely Stoppard was aware

when he adapted the minor

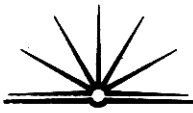
'Hamlet' characters of Rosencrantz

& Guildenstern, to become his

main & title characters.

The 20<sup>th</sup> Century being an age

of ~~such~~ uncertainty is no



Q11:8

extensively reflected in Stoppard's  
play. Although not specifically  
set in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
'Rosencrantz & Guildenstern  
Are dead' echoes the average  
man's questions & uncertainty  
about everything from death  
to "<sup>who</sup> ~~what~~ are we?"