***Rosencrantz and Guildenstern***

**Discussion Questions**

1. Given the Player's description of a tragedy in Act Two, is Stoppard's play a tragedy ("The bad end unhappily, the good unluckily")? (2.316)
2. Why are Ros and Guil so lost and directionless when not caught up in the action of *Hamlet*?
3. What are the major similarities and differences between Ros's view of what a play should do, and Guil's view of how a play should relate to reality?
4. Does Stoppard's play pay homage to *Hamlet* or does it ridicule it?
5. How do *Hamlet* and *R/G* deal with themes of absurdity and a breakdown in communication in distinct ways?