

William Shakespeare



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Shakespeare's Early Life

William Shakespeare was born in 1564, in Stratford-upon-Avon. Located in the center of England, the town was (and still is) an important river-crossing settlement and market center.



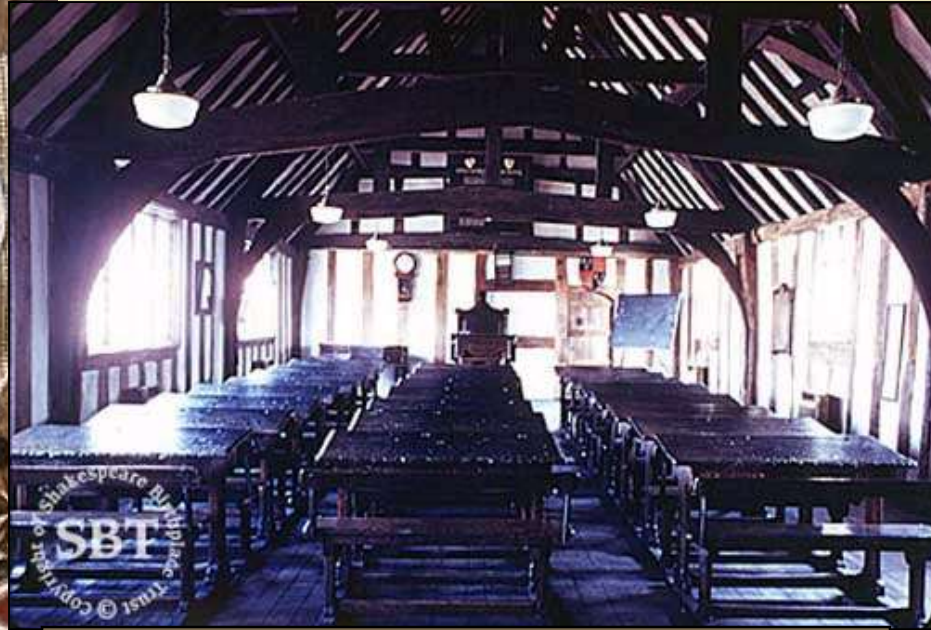
The House Where Shakespeare was born.

Shakespeare's Parents

- ◆ His father, John, worked as a glove-maker, a wool dealer, a money-lender, and a bailiff.
- ◆ He married Mary Arden and the two set up a home.
- ◆ John and Mary lost two children before William was born. They had five more children after William, another of whom died young.



Shakespeare's Education



Shakespeare's school room

William attended Stratford's junior school before moving on to grammar school, perhaps at the age of seven. Shakespeare probably left school when he was fourteen years old. Students learned Latin, both spoken and written.

Some of Shakespeare's ideas for plots and characters came from classical stories he read in school.

Married Life

In November of 1582, he married Anne Hathaway, the daughter of a local farmer.

At the time of their marriage, William was only eighteen years old but Anne was twenty-six. Scandalous!



The house Anne grew up in.

Family Man

- ◆ Anne and William had their first child, Susanna, in 1583.
- ◆ Two years later, they had twins, Judith and Hamnet.
- ◆ Hamnet died at age 11. Judith died at age 77. Susanna died at age 66.
- ◆ Shakespeare's grandchildren all died - he had no descendents. I bet your grandparents can't say that about themselves.



The Lost Years

- ❖ Little is known as to what Shakespeare was doing between 1585 and 1592. Some historians believe he may have been a schoolmaster for some years. Others speculate that he helped his father in the family business, he took a job as a law clerk, he traveled to Italy, and/or he served as a soldier or a sailor.



The Lost Years

- ❖ Most believe that he began acting during these years. Not only did local people put on amateur shows in Stratford, but the town was visited regularly by London-based companies of actors, and Shakespeare may have joined one of them. He probably arrived in London around 1586 or 1587, when he was in his early twenties.



Time to Review

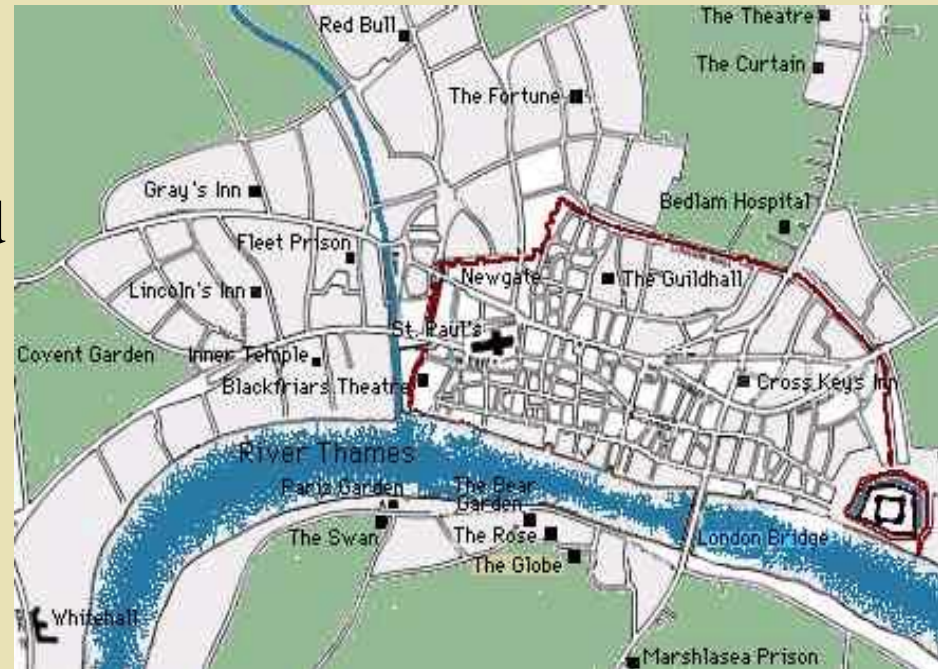
1. How have historians estimated Shakespeare's date of birth?
2. List two facts about Shakespeare's marriage.
3. Who were Shakespeare's children and what happened to them?
4. What do scholars believe Shakespeare was doing during the "Lost Years?"



Shakespeare... Writer for the Masses

Most people think of Shakespeare as a scholar who wrote plays for the wealthy and sophisticated crowds. This is not true!

In Shakespeare's time, the theater was considered *vile, nasty, foul, revolting, and offensive, and base*. In fact, people had to travel outside the city limits to see a show because it was considered illegal.



My, how times have changed!

The Globe Theater

- ◆ Women were not allowed to participate in acting back then. Therefore, the actors were all men in Shakespeare's day. The parts of all the women were played by boys who still had high voices.



Shakespeare's Death

Shakespeare died in Stratford on April 23, 1616 at the age of fifty-two. The cause of his death is unknown. Some scholars have suggested that the signatures on his will indicate that he was already sick at the date of signing. Others say he died of a fever.



Shakespeare was buried under the floor in Holy Trinity Church, in Stratford, on April 25, 1616

Shakespeare's Death

His tomb, which lies beneath the floor of the church inside the chancel rail, is covered by a stone inscribed with a curse:



GOOD FREND FOR IESVS SAKE FORBEARE,
TO DICCC THE DVST ENCLOSED HEARE.
BLESE BE ^EY MAN ^TY SPARES THES STONES,
AND CVRST BE HE ^TY MOVES MY BONES.

**Good friend for Jesus sake forbear
To dig the dust enclosed here!
Blessed be the man that spares these stones,
And cursed be he that moves my bones.**

To This Day...



He would have been 400 this year!

Can You Believe...

Shakespeare wrote at least **37 plays**, not to mention poems. His plays have been translated into over **80 different languages!**

A few of Shakespeare's works:

Romeo and Juliet

Hamlet

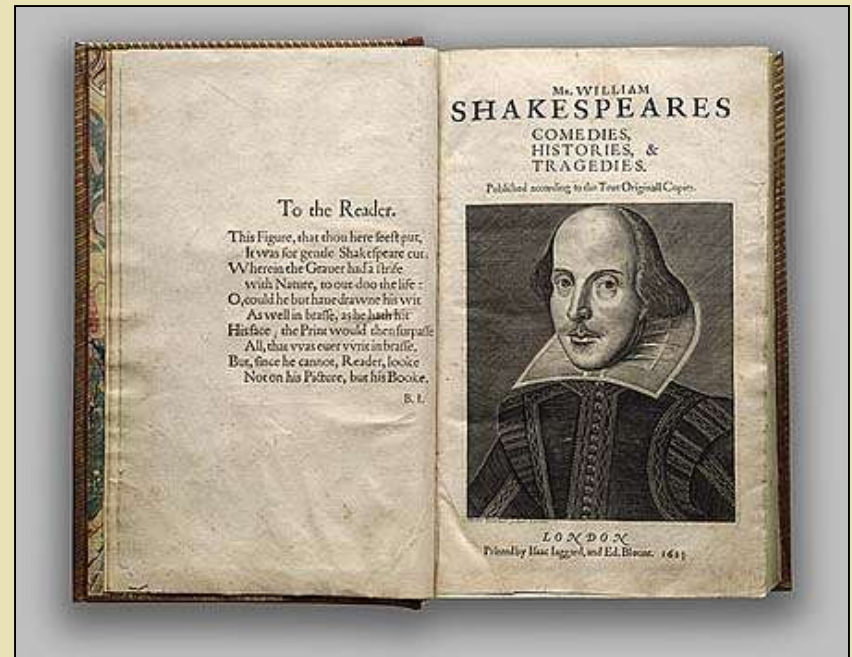
Julius Caesar

Taming of the Shrew

Macbeth

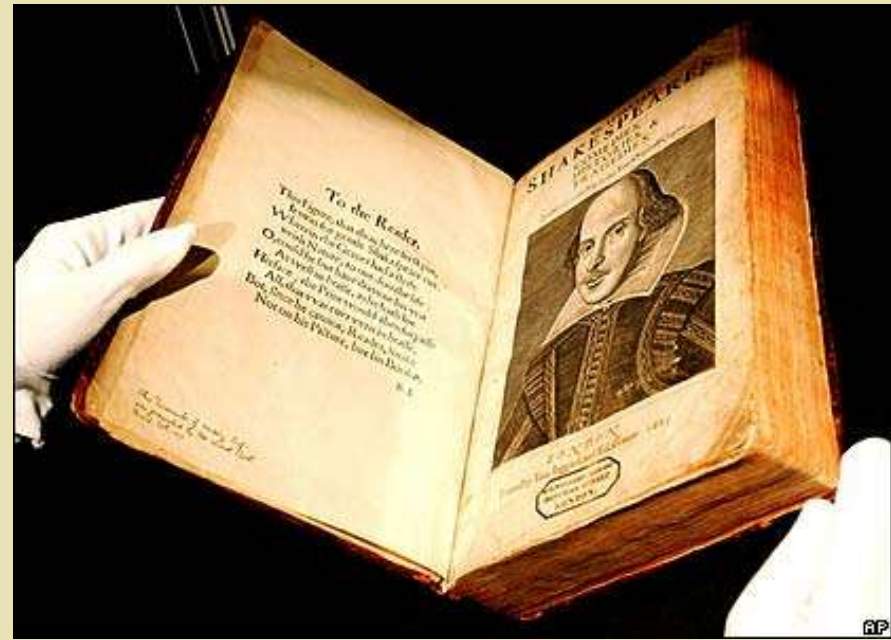
The Merchant of Venice

A Midsummer Night's Dream



The First Folio

Shakespeare never published any of his plays. We read his plays today only because his fellow actors recorded his work after he died as a dedication to their friend. In 1623, they published 36 of William's plays. This collection, known as *The First Folio*, is the source from which all published Shakespeare books are derived and is an important proof that he authored his plays. In 2006, one of the few existing copies of *The First Folio* was auctioned for \$5.2 million.



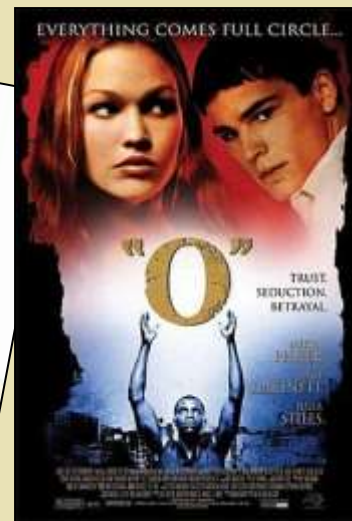
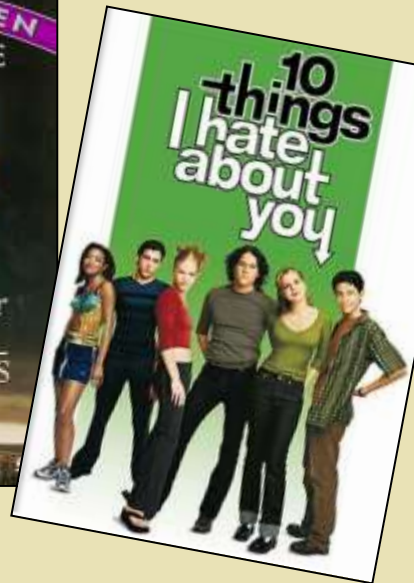
Movies Based on Shakespeare's Works

- ◆ *West Side Story*– based on *Romeo and Juliet*
- ◆ *Kiss Me, Kate*– based on *Taming of the Shrew*
- ◆ *The Lion King*– based on *Hamlet*



Movies Based on Shakespeare's Works

- ◆ *A Thousand Acres*– based on *King Lear*
- ◆ *10 Things I Hate About You*– based on *Taming of the Shrew*
- ◆ *O*– based on *Othello*
- ◆ Sci-fi movie *Forbidden Planet*– based on *The Tempest*



William Shakespeare

IN STATISTICS



BORN AND DIED ON APRIL 23RD

HAD 7 SIBLINGS & 3 CHILDREN

THERE ARE MORE THAN 80 VARIATIONS RECORDED FOR THE SPELLING OF HIS NAME

HIS PLAYS ARE MADE UP OF A TOTAL OF 864,429 WORDS

HE WROTE 87 PLAYS AND 154 WORKS THAT WE KNOW OF.

LIVED UNTIL 52

INTRODUCED ALMOST 2,000 WORDS TO THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE, AND USED OVER 7,000 WORDS ONLY ONCE IN OF HIS PLAYS

HE WROTE CLOSE TO 1/10 OF THE MOST QUOTED LINES EVER WRITTEN OR SPOKEN IN ENGLISH, AND IS THE 2ND MOST QUOTED WRITER IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

The Numbers



- 2 OF HIS PLAYS ARE WRITTEN ENTIRELY IN VERSE - KING JOHN & RICHARD II
- 2 OF HIS PLAYS HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO KLINGON - HAMLET AND MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
- 8 PLAYS IN WHICH MEN ARE DISGUISED AS WOMEN OR WOMEN AS MEN - A MIDSUMMER NIGHTS DREAM, AS YOU LIKE IT, CYMBELINE, MERCHANT OF VENICE, TWO GENTLEMEN OF VERONA, TWELFTH NIGHT

LONGEST PLAYS BY NUMBER OF WORDS

Play	Word Count
Henry VIII	2,811
Titus Andronicus	2,470
Timon of Athens	2,289
Measure for Measure	2,259
Coriolanus	2,243

SHORTEST PLAYS BY NUMBER OF WORDS

Play	Word Count
Macbeth	488
King John	491
Richard III	596
Two Gentlemen	642
Timon of Athens	664

SHAKESPEARE'S 10 MOST TALKATIVE CHARACTERS

CREATED 1,380 CHARACTERS
1,221 OF WHOM HAD SPEAKING PARTS

Character	Number of Lines
Falstaff	271
Henry V	277
Hamlet	258
King of Denmark	205
Macbeth	214
Yago	212
Antony	203
Richard III	204
Shakespeare	219
Clayton	206

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE AT WWW.NOSWEATSHAKESPEARE.COM

THINGS WE SAY TODAY WHICH WE OWE TO SHAKESPEARE

- "KNOCK KNOCK! WHO'S THERE?"
 - "SET YOUR TEETH ON EDGE"
 - "FAINT HEARTED"
 - "SO-SO"
 - "GOOD RIDDANCE"
 - "SEEN BETTER DAYS"
 - "TOO MUCH OF A GOOD THING"
 - "SEND HIM PACKING"
 - "WEAR YOUR HEART ON YOUR SLEEVE"
 - "NOT SLEEP ONE WINK"
 - "COME WHAT MAY"
 - "THE GAME IS UP"
 - "FOR GODDNESS' SAKE"
 - "WHAT'S DONE IS DONE"
 - "FULL CIRCLE"
 - "BATED BREATH"
 - "GREEN EYED MONSTER"
 - "VANISH INTO THIN AIR"
 - "BE ALL/END ALL"
 - "OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH"
 - "DEAD AS A DOORNAIL"
 - "IN A PICKLE"
 - "FAIR/FOUL"
 - "BRAVE MAKES YOUR HAIR NEW WORLD"
 - "STAND ON END"
 - "NAKED TRUTH"
 - "PLAY/PLAY"
 - "THE WORLD IS WILD"
 - "BREAK THE ICE"
 - "BREADED MY OYSTER"
 - "GOOSE CHASE"
 - "OFF WITH HIS HEAD"
 - "LIE HIS LAST"
 - "LOVE IS BLIND"
 - "HEART OF HEARTS"
 - "A SORRY SIGHT"
 - "A PIECE OF WORK"
- "LAUGHING STOCK"

Time to Review

11. Out of Shakespeare's 37 published plays, name as many as you can:
12. What is *The First Folio*?
13. What was Shakespeare's nickname and why?
14. What is the first line of Shakespeare's most famous sonnet, Sonnet 18?
15. List some words and/or phrases that Shakespeare introduced to the English language.



Elizabethan Era

- ◆ We know who Shakespeare was, who his family was, where he came from, and what his world was like.
- ◆ Now, let us look at what **London, England** was like when Shakespeare was in his prime.



The City

- ◆ London was the largest city in Europe during Shakespeare's time.
- ◆ It was so populated and dirty that travelers could smell London from twenty miles away.
- ◆ They could hear it from three miles away.
- ◆ London had a disturbingly high mortality rate (death rate) and depended on immigration for its population growth.



Romeo and Juliet setting:
Verona, Italy



Famous
Balcony

