

Video session Shakespeare today

▶ Watch the DVD clip. Choose the correct answers.

- 1 When was William Shakespeare born?
a 1550 b 1564 c 1592
- 2 How many plays did he write?
a 37 b 52 c more than 80
- 3 Who were his plays originally popular with?
a everyone b the rich and wealthy c the poor and uneducated
- 4 How many people could watch a play at the original Globe Theatre?
a less than 1,000 b up to 2,000 c up to 3,000
- 5 Which one of these is not a quote that is said by people interviewed?
a 'All's well that ends well.'
b 'To be or not to be. That is the question.'
c 'The earth has music for those who listen.'

WRITE THE LETTER IN
THE BOX

▶ Watch again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)? If the DVD clip doesn't give the information, choose doesn't say (DS).

- 1 Throughout the world, around a half of all school students study the works of Shakespeare. T / F / DS
- 2 There isn't much information available about what Shakespeare did when he was young. T / F / DS
- 3 Shakespeare often returned to Stratford-upon-Avon throughout his life. T / F / DS
- 4 The theatre was one of the only types of entertainment available during Shakespeare's times. T / F / DS
- 5 When Shakespeare was alive, you couldn't go and see a play in the evening. T / F / DS
- 6 Last year, the Royal Shakespeare Company used Twitter to reach new audiences. T / F / DS
- 7 Shakespeare used a lot more words in his plays than is common today. T / F / DS
- 8 Jacqui O'Hanlon believes students who speak English as a first language may find Shakespeare more difficult than students whose first language is not English. T / F / DS

WRITE T / F / DS

RECYCLE Complete the review with the words below. There is one word that you do not need to use.

award characters humour play poetry plot

Theatre Review

Marsha Hannon's ¹_____ -winning new ²_____, *The River Sleeps*, is coming to the Royal Theatre next week. The play follows the two main ³_____, Veronica and Matthew, as they sail down the Danube River. There are many twists and turns in the intriguing ⁴_____ as the two friends learn more about each other's pasts and uncover a shared secret. It's both moving and full of ⁵_____, and is bound to leave audiences laughing and crying.

Complete the collocations from the DVD clip with the adjectives below.

crucial early literary native Shakespearean special

- 1 Most people believe that Tolstoy was a _____ genius.
- 2 My father is a _____ English speaker. He was born in Manchester.
- 3 My grandfather spent his _____ life in France before moving to the UK when he was 18.
- 4 It's important for _____ actors to understand the characters they are playing.
- 5 The _____ difference between the theatre then and now is the audience.
- 6 It's important to wear smart clothes on a _____ occasion like a wedding.