

WRITING

Who's William Shakespeare?



In spite of his popularity, Shakespeare's texts and language are still often considered difficult to understand by both fluent and less fluent English language speakers alike.

Match Shakespeare's words to their modern equivalents.

(The examples below can help you or you might want to use a dictionary here)

1. I **protest** in the sincerity of love and honest kindness. (Othello II.iii)
2. And their executors, the knavish crows, disposer of remains / Fly **o'er** them all, impatient for their hour. (Henry V, IV.ii)
3. Portia, **adieu**, I have too grieved a heart. (The Merchant of Venice II.vii)
4. We doubt not of a fair and lucky war,/Since God so graciously **hath** brought to light / This dangerous treason lurking in our way. (Henry V II.ii)
5. Heaven truly knows that **thou** art false as hell. (Othello IV.ii)
6. **Prithee**, no more: let him come when he will; (Othello III.iii)
7. **Behold**, there stand the caskets, noble Prince. (The Merchant of Venice II.ix)
8. That's a lie in **thy** throat. I charge you in his majesty's name, (Henry V, IV.viii)

1. Protest
2. O'er
3. Adieu
4. Hath
5. Thou
6. Prithee
7. Behold
8. Thy

- a. I insist
- b. please; may I ask you
- c. over
- d. has
- e. look!
- f. your
- g. goodbye
- h. you (informal or disrespectful)

Watch the video presented by Mike Rugnetta about the life of Shakespeare and answer the questions.



- a. What was the name of Shakespeare's wife?

b. What is a quarto?

c. How many plays were there in Shakespeare's First Folio?

d. What are the 3 genres of Shakespeare's plays?

e. According to Lily Campbell, what is the difference between "Tragedy" and "History"?

f. During the video, Mark Rugnetta jokes about not being comfortable saying "Macbeth". Why do artists believe you can't say "Macbeth" in the theater? How do artists call the play instead? (Tip, he doesn't say in the video, you have to search it)

g. Many of Shakespeare's plays were adapted to the cinema. Can you name some of them?

h. Write about the similarities of Shakespeare plays and their adaptations: "Hamlet" and the animation "The Lion King", or "The taming of the shrew" and the movie "10 Things I Hate About You"