

5D ■ Culture, vocabulary and grammar Shakespeare

SB p.62-63

1 Answer the questions.

1 What do you know about William Shakespeare? Write at least 5 facts.

2 Look at the quote in the first line of the article (SB p.62): **'He was not of an age, but for all time!'**. What does it mean? How does it relate to Shakespeare?

2 Read the article in SB p.62-63. Are the sentences true (T), false (F) or not given (NG)?

	T/F/NM	Prove your answer by providing quotes from the article.
1 Shakespeare's reputation is better now than it was during his lifetime.		
2 All the stories for his plays were his own.		
3 To enjoy his stories, you have to know a lot about Britain's past.		
4 His heroes have more good qualities than people in real life.		
5 Audiences pity Shylock in The Merchant of Venice.		
6 Audiences today can't feel the emotion in his plays.		
7 He liked to use humour after a particularly tragic scene.		

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8 His plays are full of words of his own invention.		
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Word analysis

3 Answer the questions, referring closely to the article.

1 Which word is the introduction to a book or speech? How did the significance of the one mentioned change over time? (A)

Word:

Answer:

2 Which word describes something strange and unusual? What type of story is it describing here? (B)

Word:

Answer:

3 Which phrase means the same as timeless stories? What proof does the writer give that Shakespeare's stories are timeless? (B)

Word:

Answer:

4 Which adjective describes behaviour aimed at getting what you want, even if you hurt other people in the process? Can this characteristic ever be a good thing? (B)

Word:

Answer:

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5 Which two words are types of characters in a story? What types of character are they? (C)

Word:

Answer:

6 Which word means cruel treatment? Why was it experienced in this case? (C)

Word:

Answer:

7 Which word describes something that makes you go cold with fear? What other emotions do Shakespeare's plays elicit from the audience? (D)

Word:

Answer:

8 Which phrase says that someone is the greatest in a certain area? What metaphor is being used here? (F)

Word:

Answer:

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1 Complete the text with the words below. There are two words that you do not need.

■ abuse ■ chilling ■ preface ■ pinnacle ■ protagonists
■ quirky ■ ruthless ■ transcend

If you are an aspiring writer, you need to read a lot of books. Whether you enjoy Magnus Mills' ¹ comic novels about bus drivers or the ² horror stories of Stephen King, reading will help you create great literature. Observe other people and their behaviour to get ideas for the ³ of your story. A powerful account of the human experience can ⁴ time and place. You'd better get practising if you want to reach the ⁵ of your writing powers, so start with a blog if you haven't got an idea for a great story yet. Edit all your work and be ⁶ in your criticism. Keep on editing until it's not just great, but perfect.

Miscellaneous Shakespeare Quotes

4 Listen to the text 'SHAKESPEARE'S IDIOMS FOR EVERYDAY CONVERSATION' and answer the questions below.

- ❖ Who uses idioms coined by the famous playwright over 400 years ago today?
- ❖ Which idiom would Shakespeare use to describe British divorcee Amanda Rodgers's marriage? Why?

- ❖ What kind of people, according to the text, have 'a heart of gold'?

- ❖ Why did a local politician in the UK say that people should stop giving beggars money? Which Shakespeare's phrase did he use to explain what he meant?

5 Explain in your own words the idioms created by William Shakespeare.

- Love all, trust a few, do wrong to none.

- A fool thinks himself to be wise, but a wise man knows himself to be a fool.

- God has given you one face, and you make yourself another

- Cowards die many times before their deaths; the valiant never taste of death but once.