

## Pre-Reading

Think about the following questions.

1. Do you enjoy going to theater performances?
2. What is the name of one of your country's famous playwrights?
3. Have you ever seen one of his or her plays? What was it about?

## Vocabulary Preview

Write the letter of the word or phrase with the same meaning as the underlined word or phrase.

a. go to; be at	d. acts, sings, dances, etc.
b. tear down; get rid of completely	e. have a good opinion about
c. place	f. lived or lasted through a time

1. \_\_\_ This old book survived the fire in the library.
2. \_\_\_ I like to watch that actress's movies. She always performs well.
3. \_\_\_ Nobody uses the building. The city wants to destroy it and build something new.
4. \_\_\_ Some parents did not approve of the play because the actors kissed.
5. \_\_\_ This is a great location for a theater. I'm sure the theater will do well.
6. \_\_\_ We have to reserve tickets early to attend the opening night of the play.

# Shakespeare, Where Are You Now?



William Shakespeare (1564-1616) wrote many plays and poems which are known the world over. But perhaps you think the works of an **Elizabethan playwright** are not important today. Well, think again. Shakespeare's works have survived the years and then some! For example, *Romeo and Juliet* has not only been 5 performed again and again in theaters around the world, but it has also been made into a very popular movie, twice!

During the late 1500s, however, Shakespeare's plays were often performed at the Globe Theatre in London. The Globe was a large **open-air** theater that used only natural lighting. Shows at the Globe used very few **props**, but performances were always interesting 10 and exciting because the **audience** yelled at, cheered, and talked with the performers. The Globe was a great success. However, in 1613, during a performance of Shakespeare's *Henry VIII*, a **cannon** was **fired** on stage, setting off a fire. The fire completely destroyed the theater. The Globe was fixed a year later, but it did not stay open long. The theater was closed by the **Puritans**, who did not approve of entertainment. The Globe never 15 opened again, and the building was finally **torn down** in 1644.

Theater lovers in England never forgot the Globe, and in 1970, a decision was made to rebuild it as close to the original design as possible. Imagine how people felt when, in 1989, those working on the new Globe came across some of the original building only about 100 meters from the new theater. They 20 were building the new theater almost in the original Globe's location! The new Globe opened in 1999 and has since won many **awards** as one of the best tourist **attractions** in Europe. Since 25 the new theater opened, hundreds of thousands of people have attended Shakespearean performances such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, and *Henry V*. Shakespeare, where are you now? At the Globe, of course!



Reading Time \_\_\_\_\_ minutes \_\_\_\_\_ seconds

324 words

<sup>2</sup> *Elizabethan*: related to times in England from 1550-1600

<sup>3</sup> *playwright*: a person who writes plays

<sup>8</sup> *open-air*: without a roof

<sup>9</sup> *prop*: a thing actors use during a performance

<sup>10</sup> *audience*: a group of people watching a show

<sup>12</sup> *cannon*: a big gun on wheels used in war

<sup>12</sup> *fire*: to shoot

<sup>14</sup> *Puritan*: a person of a group of Protestants in the 1500s and 1600s

<sup>15</sup> *tear down*: to remove or take apart

<sup>22</sup> *award*: a prize; something granted as for merit

<sup>23</sup> *attraction*: a thing to see

## Reading Comprehension

Choose the best answer.

1. What is the main focus of this reading?
  - a. Interesting attractions in Europe
  - b. Shakespeare and the Globe Theatre
  - c. Shakespeare's plays and poems
  - d. The first play at the Globe Theatre
2. Which is probably NOT true about plays at the Globe in the 1500s?
  - a. Actors didn't use very many objects on stage.
  - b. The shows were very popular.
  - c. The audience said things to actors on stage.
  - d. The shows were usually performed at night.
3. Which is true about the new Globe Theatre?
  - a. It was open from 1500-1616.
  - b. A fire happened there around 1970.
  - c. Workers finished it in 1989.
  - d. People could see plays there in 1999.
4. During what kind of scene did the fire at the Globe start?
  - a. During a battle scene
  - b. During a party scene
  - c. During a scene in which witches cooked something
  - d. During a scene on a beach after a boat sank
5. What won an award for the best attraction in Europe?
  - a. *Romeo and Juliet*
  - b. Shakespeare's plays
  - c. The Globe Theatre
  - d. The original performance

## Idiomatic Expressions

Find these idioms in the reading.

- **the world over** [ around the world; everywhere ]  
Children **the world over** like Pokemon.
- **and then some** [ plus more ]  
He completed all of his own work **and then some**.
- **come across** [ to discover; to encounter ]  
We **came across** \$50 lying on the street on the way home.

Fill in the blank with one of the above idioms. Change its form if necessary.

1. A smile is understood as a sign of friendship \_\_\_\_\_.
2. You may \_\_\_\_\_ a good bargain if you shop at the market.
3. The website has news stories, jokes, games, \_\_\_\_\_.

## Summary

Scan the passage and complete the timeline with the correct information.

destroyed the theater  
were performed

new theater opened  
rebuild the Globe

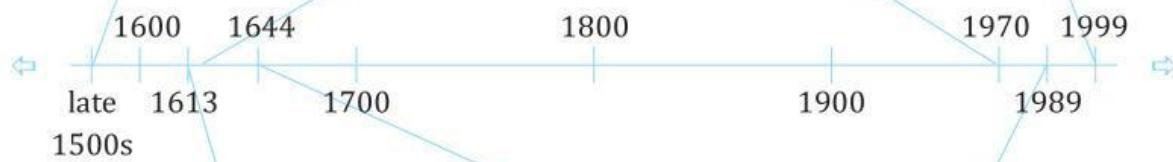
the original building  
was torn down

Shakespeare's plays  
1 \_\_\_\_\_ at  
the Globe Theatre.

The theater was  
rebuilt, but it was  
soon closed by the  
Puritans.

Plans were  
made to  
4 \_\_\_\_\_.

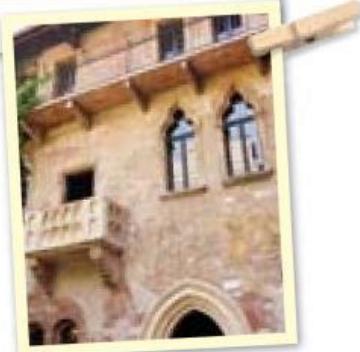
The  
6 \_\_\_\_\_.



During a performance of *Henry VIII*, a cannon shot set off a fire  
that 2 \_\_\_\_\_.

The Globe  
3 \_\_\_\_\_.

Parts of 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
were found about 100  
meters from the site of the  
new theater.



## Listening

### Old and New



Listen to the dialog and complete each sentence.

1. Performances at the Globe today are like \_\_\_\_\_.
2. One difference is that there are \_\_\_\_\_ now.
3. Today's performances at the Globe don't use \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

Discuss the following questions.

1. What is something you know about Shakespeare or his work?
2. Which present-day writers do you admire?
3. Which of those writers do you think will still be popular 100 years from now?

### Present Perfect

Present perfect tense is used to express a past experience or a continuing situation.

*Romeo and Juliet has not only been performed again and again in theaters around the world, but it (was also made / has also been made) into a very popular movie, twice!*

*The new Globe opened in 1999 and (has since won / since won) many awards as one of the best tourist attractions in Europe.*

Write your own short paragraph by answering the questions below.

### A Great Writer

(1) Who is a great writer from your country? (2) What has he or she written? (3) When did you read his or her work? (4) Why did you read it? (5) Has this writer's work been translated into English?

#### Example

A great writer from Canada is Margaret Atwood. She has written lots of novels. I read her novel The Handmaid's Tale in high school. I read it because I enjoyed the movie. All of her novels are in English, but they have also been translated into other languages.

## Vocabulary and Idiom Review

### A. Choose the best word or phrase to fill in the blank.

1. Computers are now used \_\_\_\_ for both education and entertainment.  
a. and then some      b. in the end      c. over and over      d. the world over
2. I am afraid to speak in front of a large \_\_\_\_.  
a. attraction      b. audience      c. prop      d. stage
3. More than 1,000 people \_\_\_\_ the concert.  
a. attended      b. destroyed      c. produced      d. survived
4. Please \_\_\_\_ the other people in the audience and don't talk during the show.  
a. approve      b. attend      c. fire      d. respect
5. The huge park downtown is one of the city's most popular \_\_\_\_.  
a. attractions      b. audiences      c. plays      d. successes
6. The theater does not \_\_\_\_ people to eat or drink during the show.  
a. allow      b. destroy      c. perform      d. yell
7. We will have the report finished by five o'clock. You can \_\_\_\_.  
a. call us names      b. calm us down      c. come across us      d. count on us

### B. Choose the correct form of the word to fill in the blank.

8. He's waiting for the committee's \_\_\_\_ of the plan.  
a. approval      b. approve      c. approved
9. The audience cheered when the \_\_\_\_ walked onto the stage.  
a. performer      b. perform      c. performance
10. They had trouble \_\_\_\_ a place to park near the theater.  
a. location      b. locating      c. local