

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE NOTES



Life

- Born on _____, in _____, England
- Worked as an _____ and eventually began writing his own _____
- Worked for different theaters until _____ when he settled in the _____
- Wrote _____ plays before retiring to _____ and _____
- Died on _____. In his will, he left his wife “the _____ best bed, with the furniture.”

Times

- Lived during the _____ Period- Queen _____ ruled England. She supported the arts, including plays, and _____ was one of her favorites.
- King _____ took the crown in _____ and became an official patron of Shakespeare’s theater company. They became known as the _____.
- Popular forms of entertainment included _____, _____ and _____.

Theater

- Many _____ were built outside of the city to avoid trouble with the _____.
- Authorities disliked the theaters for _____ and _____ reasons, but also because of the danger of spreading the _____ (a deadly, contagious disease).
- Plays could only be held during the _____ and during _____ since they had open air theaters and had no lights.
- Plays took about _____.
- Admission was _____ (about 60 cents today) for the “_____”. This is where the rowdy peasants could _____, _____, _____, _____, and watch the play. They were called “_____”.
- The best seats were up in the _____ and cost _____ (about \$7). Here the rich people could avoid the _____.
- All parts were played by _____, except _____ roles which were played by _____ were not allowed by law.
- There was little or no _____, so the audience had to use its _____.
- Actors dressed in _____ outfits instead of _____ from the period of the play.
- A “full house” was about _____ and about _____ in the galleries.
- The _____, where most of Shakespeare’s most well known plays were produced, was built in _____. It burned to the ground in _____ during a performance of Henry VIII.

Plays

- These were works which were meant to be _____, not just _____.
- Not many of his plays were _____ in Shakespeare’s lifetime.
- Because the _____ copies were taken from many sources, different _____ of his plays exist today.