



Context

William Shakespeare (bapt. 26 April 1564 – 23 April 1616)^[a] was an English playwright, poet, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's greatest dramatist.

He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon" (or simply "the Bard").

His works consist of some 39 plays, 154 sonnets, two long narrative poems, and a few other verses, some of uncertain authorship.

His plays have been translated into every major living language and are performed more often than those of any other playwright.

Shakespeare was born and raised in Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire. Shakespeare produced most of his known works between 1589 and 1613.

His early plays were primarily comedies and histories and are regarded as some of the best work produced in these genres.

He then wrote mainly tragedies until 1608, among them *Hamlet*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Othello*, *King Lear*, and *Macbeth*, all considered to be among the finest works in the English language.^[2]

In the last phase of his life, he wrote tragicomedies (also known as romances).

Language

Recount- retells an experience that happened in the past to entertain, inform or evaluate

Guide- gives instructions or advice to help the reader to understand something

Speech- a formal address to an audience

Review- a critical appraisal of a film, book etc.. published in a newspaper

Purpose- the reason a writer produces a text

Audience- the people who the text is written for

Form- the style and format that the text is in

Simple Sentence- a sentence with one main clause.

Compound Sentence- a sentence with two main clauses joined by a conjunction

Complex Sentence- a sentence with a main clause and at least one subordinate clause

Noun- an object

Verb- an action or state

Adjective- a word describing a noun

Adverb- a word describing a verb

Pronoun- a word that stands in place of a noun, I, he, she, we, they

Conjunction- a word that links together 2 parts of a sentence

Shakespeare Key Terminology

Scene- a brief moment in a play consisting of dialogue and action.

Act- several scenes following on from each other. Each act forms the different parts of the plot.

Stage Direction- an instruction in the script of a play, directing the movements of the actors, the arrangement of scenery, etc.

Audience- the people watching the play.

Playwright- the writer of the play

Soliloquy/monologue- an act of speaking one's thoughts aloud when by oneself or regardless of any hearers, especially by a character in a play.

5 Act play- a drama is often divided into five parts, or acts, which some refer to as a dramatic arc

Tragedy- a story based on suffering and the terrible events that occur to a main character

Comedy- a story based on love with a light-hearted plot and happy outcome

Sonnet- a poem with 14 lines, 10 syllables per line and a set rhyme scheme. In Shakespeare's sonnets, the rhyme scheme usually follows the octave and the sestet structure: abab cdcd efefgg

DRAMATIC DEVICES

Foreshadowing: a device in which the writer gives a warning or indication of the future

Dramatic Tension: a sense of excitement or anticipation that the audience feels

Dramatic Irony: occurs when the audience are aware of a detail that characters on stage are not aware of.

Pauses and cliffhangers: these techniques are used to give suspense to the play

Shakespeare's Style

Verse: Speech written in poetic form

Blank Verse: a formal poetic form where each foot of a line is stressed on the second syllable (de-DUM) and each has five feet creating IAMBIC PENTAMETER.

Prose: A form of written speech that reflects the style of ordinary speech without a rhythmic structure.

The **Globe Theatre** was a theatre in London associated with William Shakespeare. It was built in 1599 by Shakespeare's playing company, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, and was destroyed by fire on 29 June 1613. A second Globe Theatre was built on the same site by June 1614 and closed down in 1642.

A modern reconstruction of the Globe, named "Shakespeare's Globe", opened in 1997 approximately 750 feet (230 m) from the site of the original theatre.

