

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE - A LIFE OF DRAMA

Part I

1. Who was the reigning Queen during the time in which Shakespeare lived?
2. When was Shakespeare born?
3. What tragic event happened the year he was born?
4. Where was he born?
5. What were his parents' names?
6. How did his father earn a living?
7. Briefly describe a typical school day for Shakespeare.
8. How did Shakespeare first become interested in the theatre?
9. Why did he *not* go to university?
10. Whom did Shakespeare marry?
11. What were the names of his children?
12. Where did he move to in the 1580s?

Part II

13. What were the first two plays that he wrote?
14. In which forms did he write throughout the 1590s?
15. Who was Shakespeare's patron?
16. What are sonnets?
17. How many plays did Shakespeare write?
18. How long did he work in London?
19. What evidence is there that Shakespeare's marriage was not a happy one?
20. What threatened the population of London throughout the 1590s?
21. Why were the theatres sometimes closed?
22. Why was Shakespeare fascinated by death?

Part III

23. What tragic event happened to Shakespeare in August of 1596?
24. What kind of plays did he begin to write?

25. What was the name of the theatre Shakespeare worked at?
26. Name the first play produced there.
27. What was different about the female roles in Shakespeare's plays?
28. How did Shakespeare describe himself?
29. What were the sources for his plays?

Part IV

30. Who was crowned in 1603?
31. What three plays did Shakespeare write between 1604 and 1607?
32. What was he writing about during this time?
33. What do we learn from Shakespeare's tragedies?
34. What was the last play he wrote?
35. Who was Prospero?
36. What happened in the summer of 1613?
37. How did it affect Shakespeare?
38. To where did he retire?

Part V

39. What did Shakespeare's will say?
40. When did he die?
41. How old was he?
42. When were his plays first published?
43. Who was the man who was instrumental in putting together the first folio of Shakespeare's plays?
44. What is the famous phrase he wrote about Shakespeare?