William Shakespeare  
Treasure Hunt Assignment

Directions: For this assignment, you and a partner will work together to complete the following directions below.

1. Choose a partner. You will work together and complete the assignment below.
2. After logging on to the computer, click on Firefox and type in the following website: http://www.shakespeareunit.weebly.com
3. Go to the tab labeled “Your Task.” Click on the Word Document titled, William Shakespeare Treasure Hunt Assignment. Download the document and use Word to type in all answers to the questions. After completion, you will print your own copy of the document and bring it to class with you.
4. All other directions for this assignment are available throughout this website. Make sure to read through each tab, for each will provide you with useful information.
5. Remember that you and your partner both need to complete the answers below; this is a team effort. You will need to refer to this worksheet later when you prepare for this unit's exam.
6. Remember to site all sources.

Part I Find the following facts about Shakespeare's Personal Life:

1. Birthday: Baptized on April 26, 1564 (birthdate is unknown, but traditionally celebrated on April 23)
2. Brief description of his childhood: We don't know much about it.
4. Siblings: Joan, Margaret, Gilbert, Anne, Richard, Edmund, Joan (not the same one as before) (7 siblings in all)
5. Summary of his education:

It is believed that Shakespeare went to King’s New School in Stratford-upon-Avon because sons of prominent people went there. There aren’t any records of the time that he went to school there, so no one knows how long he went to grammar school. The curriculum included learning the English alphabet and Latin grammar. He apprenticed his father’s business around 1577. His early education was mostly in business he learned around his father’s store.

Name of mother and father: Mary Arden and John Shakespeare

Wife: Anne Hathaway

6. Children: Susanna, Hamnet, Judith

7. Find three new facts about Shakespeare's personal life:

8. A. His dad was a burgess of the borough.
B. His first sister Joan died and then he had another sister that his parents also named Joan.

C. His mother was the daughter of Robert Arden.

Part II: *The Globe Theater*

1. What is the Globe Theater? The Globe Theater was a theater built by Shakespeare’s acting company, and it was where most of his plays were performed.

2. When and where was it constructed? It was built in 1599 in London, England.

3. Why was the Globe Theater important to Shakespeare and his career? The Globe Theater was important to Shakespeare and his career because he helped build it, he made money performing plays there, and many people could see his plays together.

4. Find a picture of the Globe Theater. Copy and paste the picture that you find in the space below:
5. Find three new and interesting facts about the Globe Theater:

A. The Globe Theater was one of the four major theaters in its area.
B. The Globe Theater had a seating capacity of up to 3,000 spectators.
C. In 1613, the original Globe Theater burned to the ground.

Part III: Shakespeare’s Work as an Author & the Elizabethan Era

A. Answer the questions below. Write about a paragraph's length for each answer.

1. In the space below, briefly describe the Elizabethan Era in England. Who is in power during this time period? During what years does this era take place?

   The Elizabethan Era was named after the queen at the time, Elizabeth I. It took place during her reign from 1558-1603. The Elizabethan era was during the renaissance and many new ideas and ways of thinking started then. The first theatres in England started during the Elizabethan era. There was a general superstitious attitude but for the most part it was a very prosperous time period.

2. How would one describe the “Elizabethan Actor/Actress”?

   Elizabethan actors were all male, even those who played the parts of women. Actors in the Elizabethan era were not regarded highly, they were considered to be rouges. Actors could be asked for credentials and plays were censored. Still, many actors became wealthy and even played for royalty when plays became more popular.

2. How does Shakespeare incorporate the Elizabethan style into his performances even though he, technically, did not live during this era?

   Elizabethan writers Thomas Kyd and Christopher Marlowe influenced Shakespeare’s early plays. The way he used grammar, the words he used, and sentence structures are also in Elizabethan style. His plays did not use many props or scenery, and women were not allowed on stage. Actors were required to play multiple roles in his plays.

B. Find at least three pictures of costumes that followed the Elizabethan style. Copy and paste what you find in the space provided below. Make sure to include all websites/sources.

C. You and your partner will work together to find a book in the library that summarizes Shakespeare's biography and work as an author. With this book, you will fill in the following information:

- **Title & Author:** Shakespeare's Sonnets and Poems (edited by Barbra A. Mowat and Paul Werstine)
- **City & Date of publication:** published 2009 in New York, NY
- **Publisher:** Simon and Schuster Paperbacks

Finally, cite the book using the MLA format. If you are unfamiliar with this format, is it the website [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/). This site will guide you through the necessary steps.


Describe the appearance and your general opinion about the book. This portion of the assignment aims to answer what students should look for while finding a reference book. Here is a list of guided questions that you may want to think about:

- Is specific information in this book easy to find?
- Is the book's table of contents well organized?
- Is the appearance of your book dull and out dated or is it bold, colorful, and fun to look at?
- What age group does this book target?
- Would you refer to this book again?
- What does the book's cover look like?
- What type of reader do you think this book appeals to the most?
- Would you recommend this book to other students who are learning about Shakespeare's biography?
This book is focused mostly on Shakespeare’s work, rather than his life, though it has a good summary of his life at the beginning of the book. The book’s table of contents is well organized and specific information is relatively easy to find. The cover is a vibrant mix of magenta and dark purple with white cursive lettering which makes it fun to look at. This book is meant to be good for anyone from middle school up so it has notes and an introduction accompanying each sonnet or poem to make the reading easier to understand. I would suggest this book to anyone interested in reading Shakespeare’s work or in need of the basic facts of Shakespeare’s life. I would defiantly use this book again, but I would not describe it as an extensive biography of Shakespeare’s life.

Part IV: Shakespeare's Influence on Literature Today

1. Find a credible article online that summarizes the influence that Shakespeare's work has had on modern day literature. Once you have found an article, you and your partner will work together to (1) read the article, then (2) summarize the article's main points.

   ○ Website: [www.shakespeareonline.com](http://www.shakespeareonline.com)
   ○ Title of article: “The Importance of Shakespeare”
   ○ Author(s): Ashlee Jenson
   ○ Date of Publication: August 20, 2003
   ○ Journal(s) affiliated with chosen article:


1. Summary of article:

   William Shakespeare is an important writer in English literature. Every student should study the writing of Shakespeare because his writing uses a variety of words, he uses complex ideas, and his writing can have many different meanings. His work can be read by both experienced and inexperienced readers because it is quite easy to understand (for the most part). Shakespeare was able to put real human emotions into his writing and was able to portray man as he really is. Just reading one of Shakespeare’s works can provide a student with many new ideas, thoughts, and points of view. Everyone studying the English language should have knowledge of Shakespeare’s works. As Ben Jonson wrote, Shakespeare is “not of an age, but for all time.”
Part V: Extra Credit

**Refer to the tab titled “Extra Credit” for directions.**

Refer to the table below in order to complete the extra credit assignment. 10 points will be added onto this assignment if you choose to complete the extra credit.

**Directions:** William Shakespeare's catalog is by far one of the most impressive ones that literature has seen thus far. His work is constantly being alluded to and/or reinvented throughout our culture's media and contemporary literature; and it continues to set the standard for theatrical plays and drama. For this extra credit opportunity, pick one of Shakespeare's comedies, tragedies, or histories from the table below. Then write one paragraph that describes your interest in the piece and/or your previous experience with it.

Additionally, find two clips from YouTube that either allude to and/or have reinvented Shakespeare's work [preferably ones that are funny!]. These clips do not have to be related to the text that you chose to write about. In 1-2 sentences, inform your reader as to what Shakespearean text your clip is referencing. Your clips may include ones from movie tailors, TV shows, commercials, etc.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>-Comedies-</th>
<th>-Tragedies-</th>
<th>-Histories-</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Midsummer Night's Dream</td>
<td>Romeo &amp; Juliet</td>
<td>The Life &amp; Death of King John</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>The Winter's Tale</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Coriolanus</td>
<td>The Life &amp; Death of Richard the Second</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Twelfth-Night, or What You Will</td>
<td>Titus Andronicus</td>
<td>The first part of King Henry the Fourth</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>All is well, that Ends well</td>
<td>Timon of Athens</td>
<td>The Life of King Henry the First</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>The Taming of the Shrew</td>
<td>The Life and Death of Julius Caesar</td>
<td>The First part of King Henry the Sixth</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>As You Like It</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Macbeth</td>
<td>The Second part of King Henry the Sixth</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>The Merchant of Venice</td>
<td>The Tragedy of Hamlet</td>
<td>The Third part of King Henry the Sixth</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Much Ado about Nothing</td>
<td>King Lear</td>
<td>The Life &amp; Death of Richard the Third</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>The Comedy of Errors</td>
<td>Othello, the Moore of Venice</td>
<td>The Life of King Henry the Eighth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Measure for Measure</td>
<td>Anthony and Cleopatra</td>
<td>The Second part of King Henry the Fourth</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>The Merry Wives of Windsor</td>
<td>Cymbeline King of Britanien</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>The two Gentlemen of Verona</td>
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<td>13</td>
<td>Love's Labor's Lost</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>The Tempest</td>
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Summary Paragraph:

I have been interested in reading *A Midsummer’s Night Dream* ever since I read *The Grimm Sisters* series in 5th grade. It is a book in which characters from well known books are real, and one of the main characters is Puck from *A Midsummer’s Night Dream*. Puck was the one character whose story I had not previously read, and also one of my favorites. I think it would be interesting to see the original character and any differences between him and the Puck in *The Grimm Sisters*. In addition I enjoy modern comedies and it would be fun to see what a Shakespearean comedy is similar and how it is different.

YouTube Clips: (Copy and paste URL's)

1. Gnomeo and Juliet Trailer
   Based on Romeo and Juliet
   [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_L_5vrHoWQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_L_5vrHoWQ)

2. As you Like it
   Remake of Shakespeare's *As you Like it*
   [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xriBbcf94QQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xriBbcf94QQ)