

## Shakespeare Tragedies by The Standard Deviants

Complete this sheet as you watch the video. Some sections are fill-in-the-blank and others are matching.

1. "A lot of people love and enjoy Shakespeare's plays, but just as many others complain that they don't \_\_\_\_\_ Shakespeare."

Complete the sentences with the appropriate words:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| "First, you have to understand the 2. _____; next, you make your way through the 3. _____; and then, you have to remember all the 4. _____! How do you keep it all in your head?!" | A. plot<br>B. characters<br>C. language |
|--|---|

5. "Shakespeare--a man, not for an \_\_\_\_\_, but for all time!"  
~Ben Johnson

### Part 1: Who was Shakespeare? Section A: Shakespeare's Life and Times

Match each description with its term:

|   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 6. born in England:   | A. classical world       |
| 7. died in England:   | B. English Renaissance   |
| 8. time in which he lived and wrote:  | C. 1564                  |
| 9. time during reign of Tudors and Stuarts was known as:  | D. <i>The King's Men</i> |
| 10. creativity in the arts during this time period drew upon the:                               | E. London                |
| 11. Shakespeare grew up in:   | F. Elizabethan Era       |
| 12. Shakespeare joined an acting company in:  | G. 1616                  |
| 13. The name of Shakespeare's acting company changed from <i>The Lord Chamberlain's Men</i> to: | H. Stratford-on-Avon     |

Answer these questions:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 14. These people ate hazelnuts all day and smelled bad.                           | A. women<br>B. playwright<br>C. actor |
| 15. No _____ actors appeared on stage;  | D. The Globe                          |
| 16. These people played the female roles instead.                                 | E. groundlings<br>F. young boys       |
| 17. Shakespeare wasn't just one of these _____                                    |                                       |
| He was also a(n) 18. _____ and a shareholder in the company that owned 19. _____. |                                       |

20. Sir Francis Bacon was an educated nobleman who knew all about the royalty that Shakespeare wrote about. Bacon died of bronchitis after testing new theories of refrigeration—he killed a \_\_\_\_\_ and stuffed it with \_\_\_\_\_.
21. In the 1590's, Shakespeare wrote his sonnets, which were a series of \_\_\_\_\_ that solidified his reputation as a great \_\_\_\_\_.

### Section B: Shakespeare's Use of Language

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 22. concentrated language is:  | A. blank verse                           |
| 23. ordinary everyday language:  | B. penta                                 |
| 24. Shakespeare's poetry used metrical writing regular rhythmic pattern in language: | C. prose<br>D. iamb<br>E. meter          |
| 25. form of poetry that uses unrhymed iambic pentameter:                             | F. poetry<br>G. regular rhythmic pattern |
| 26. words at the end of a line do not rhyme:   | H. unrhymed                              |
| 27. unit of speech with one unstressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable:     |  |
| 28. 5 (five):  |  |
| 29. meter:   |  |

**Two Questions:**

**“Why did Shakespeare write in blank verse?”**

30. The reason why Shakespeare wrote in blank verse is just that he did. It was a fairly \_\_\_\_\_ practice to write plays in this form during the Elizabethan era. The rhythms of the iamb in blank verse closely resembled the \_\_\_\_\_ rhythms of our everyday speech.

**“How important is blank verse and iambic pentameter?”**

31. Good blank verse will naturally be pleasing to and appeal to the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Section C: Elizabethan Drama**

32. “English Renaissance vs. \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Drama”

**A. The Importance of Words:**

33. During Shakespeare’s time, plays used minimal props, minimal costumes, and no scenery. Shakespeare used words and the \_\_\_\_\_ listened intently.

34. Plays were verbal—not \_\_\_\_\_--words set the scene.

**B. Real Life vs. Stage Life**

35. Movies tend to suggest everything’s real—especially the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_.

36. In Shakespeare, characters are \_\_\_\_\_ characters... They’re not real people but figures that \_\_\_\_\_ real people. This means that if something is not in the play or referred to in the play, then it didn’t \_\_\_\_\_. And if something about a character isn’t in the play or mentioned in the play, then it isn’t a part of their \_\_\_\_\_.

37. Three ways to gain information about a character:

- A. by what the characters \_\_\_\_\_
- B. by what the characters say \_\_\_\_\_ them
- C. by what the characters \_\_\_\_\_

38. Stick to the \_\_\_\_\_ so that you don’t make anything up when you analyze the play.

**C. Symbolic Art**

39. Symbolic art focuses on “universals” by presenting them through \_\_\_\_\_.

40. For example, a villain wouldn’t just be a \_\_\_\_\_ guy—he would represent \_\_\_\_\_ in the world.

41. Other “universals”:  
Good, evil, \_\_\_\_\_, beauty, justice, and purity.

42. The storm raging in the play *King Lear* symbolizes the storm raging in King Lear’s \_\_\_\_\_.