

KEY

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Shakespeare Video - A&E Biography

1. greatest playwright the English language has ever had or known Shakespeare
2. life remains an enigma Shakespeare
3. lived during a time of English expansion, conquest and rising international power; also a new pride in the nation and in the English language; Elizabeth I was Queen
4. 1564- born at Stratford-on-Avon; baptized on April 26; baptisms usually done 3 days after birth- accepted birth date was April 23, 1564
5. 3rd child; first boy; two older sisters died infancy; the plague occurred in Stratford in 1564; a miracle that Shakespeare lived
6. father- John -leather worker, glove maker; wool dealer' money lender' bailiff; fairly well off for the times
7. mother- Mary -farmer's daughter; quick-witted
8. attended grammar school; read and wrote in Latin from age 8; long school days; interested in Roman stories; used them in his plays
9. first taste of theater in Stratford; saw festival at near-by town put on by Earl of Leister who owned Kenilworth Castle and was trying to impress Queen Elizabeth; William probably taken to the festival
10. little known about his life from about age 14- 28; left school; might have been apprenticed to his father; or a soldier, sailor, or teacher; this period referred to as the "Lost Years"
11. 1582-married Anne Hathaway (8-10yrs. older); rumored to be pregnant; daughter, Susanna, born within a yr.; twins Hamnet and Judith
12. 1580's-moved to London to write and act; had probably started writing in Stratford
13. 1592- Henry VI and Two Gentlemen of Verona, first plays; popular with people, but attacked by critics; accused of being mean spirited, egotistical, tightfisted
14. proof of early writing – a criticism by Green
15. 1590's-wrote poems, sonnets, and plays
16. Sonnets-not sure to whom they are addressed; the "Dark Lady" and also might be to the Earl of Southampton; rumored to perhaps be Shakespeare's

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- lover; two long poems-“Venus and Adonis”, “The Rape of Lucrece”-dedicated to him
17. during the period, plays popular commercially; producers always looking for new play; wrote 37 plays
 18. made comments in plays that gave some hints to his personal life – unhappy marriage; relationship with daughters not close
 19. 1590’s-theaters closed due to plague; wrote a poem about it; a fascination with death - shows in his plays-Hamlet, MacBeth, Julius Caesar; began to write in greater depth
 20. 1596- son Hamnet dies
 21. became 10% owner in Globe Theater; made his significant money with that
 22. Julius Caesar first play put on in Globe; limited sets; audience had to rely on imagination; women’s parts played by men or boys
 23. Shakespeare thought of himself as a poet; he “derived stories”, he didn’t make up new ones
 24. 1600’s- wrote his most profound, disturbing plays
 25. acting company known as Lord Chamberlain’s Men, know as he King’s Men, after Elizabeth’s death
 26. 1613-Globe burned; marked end of Shakespeare’s career; moved back to Stratford; wealthy; marriage apparently still strained
 27. will written in two parts – in early in 1616, the other just before he died; left daughter Susanna and her husband John a doctor in charge of estate; Anne got the second best bed
 28. Died in 1616 – April 23; buried at Holy Trinity Church
 29. plays finally published in 1623; former critic Ben Johnson, helped organize the plays into the First Folio; 18 of the 37 plays not published until First Folio – could have been lost