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
KEY

―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