



BBC WORLD SERVICE LEARNING ENGLISH

William Shakespeare



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William Shakespeare 威廉 莎士比亚

A Famous English Writer 著名的英国作家

Read the text below and do the activity that follows.

阅读下面的短文，然后完成练习。

Of all the famous English writers, probably the best known is William Shakespeare.

He was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564 on April the 23rd. His fa



Glossary 词汇表

best known – 最有名的	upbringing – 教育
survive – 存活	couple – 夫妻俩
plays – 戏剧	poem – 诗
comedies – 喜剧	romantic – 浪漫的
historical figures – 历史人物	common human themes – 广泛大众题材
betrayal – 背叛	lust – 欲望, 贪欲
ambition – 雄心, 志气	soap operas – 肥皂剧
theatre – 剧院	rebuilt – 重建
influence – 影响	honest behaviour – 正当的行为
coined the phrase – 将一盛行已久的惯用语当作新鲜成语使用	translated – 翻译

1. Reading Quiz 阅读测验

Are these sentences true or false? Circle the correct answer.

以下句子哪句是真？哪句是假？请圈出正确答案。

1. Shakespeare graduated from Oxford University. True / False
2. Shakespeare began writing in London and then moved to Stratford. True / False
3. He was born and died on April the 23rd. True/ False
4. His plays were about the lives and feelings of everyday people. True / False
5. Some of Shakespeare's phrases that his face looked good on TV. True / False

2. Reading Quiz 2 阅读测验 2

Answer the following questions about the text. You should write a short answer (1 to 6 words).

1. Where was Shakespeare born?

2. How many children did Shakespeare have?

3. How many plays did Shakespeare write?

4. What type of story is Romeo and Juliet?

5. What does 'fair play' mean?

Now choose the correct answer, a, b or c.

6. Shakespeare wrote plays about common human _____

a. stories

b. poems

c. themes

7. Shakespeare's themes can be seen in _____ and films.

a. soap operas

b. Hollywood

c. theatre

8. Shakespeare has _____ English.

a. changed

b. influenced

c. damaged

9. Shakespeare has been translated into every _____ language.

a. major

b. mayor

c. minor

10. Shakespeare is a very _____ writer.

a. known

b. little-known

c. well-known



3. Summary Completion 完成短文

Complete the summary with words from the box.

comedies	major	murder	plays	poems
rebuilt	theatre	themes	tragedies	upbringing

Shakespeare (1523 – 1616) had a good (1)_____. He went to a good school, but he didn't go to university. He wrote 38 (2)_____ and 154 (3)_____, or sonnets. His (4)_____, The Globe, was (5)_____in 1997.

He wrote sad stories, or (6)_____, as well as (7) _____

(funny stories) and romantic stories. He wrote about common (8)_____

like betrayal, (9)_____, lust, power and ambition.

His work has been translated into every (10)_____language.

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

Try to find the words associated with William Shakespeare in the puzzle below.

There are ten words to find. Words can be written horizontally (g), vertically (i) or diagonally (m)

请在下面的字谜游戏中，找出与威廉沙士比亚有关的英语单词来。

共有10个单词，其组成方式可能以水平的 (g) 垂直的 (i) 或对角的 (m) 形式出现。

t	h	e	a	c	t	i	n	c	o	m	w
i	a	c	t	i	n	g	c	o	m	e	r
n	o	c	h	t	r	a	g	g	e	d	i
g	e	t	e	v	p	c	o	m	c	o	t
p	m	i	a	b	l	o	g	l	o	v	e
l	u	s	t	w	o	w	w	e	m	e	r
a	s	w	r	r	v	e	p	o	e	m	a
y	t	a	e	i	a	r	o	a	d	t	c
p	o	w	e	t	a	g	w	d	y	l	t
o	l	r	i	t	e	r	e	y	d	u	i
m	c	a	m	e	d	y	r	d	w	s	n
e	d	y	w	r	i	t	o	r	y	s	n

play	writer	comedy	tragedy	poem
theatre	power	acting	love	lust

Answers 答案

1. Reading Quiz 1 阅读测验

1. Shakespeare graduated from Oxford University.
False
2. Shakespeare began writing in London and then moved to Stratford. False
3. He was born and died on April the 23rd. False
4. His plays were about human feelings and emotions
True
5. We use some of Shakespeare's phrases today.
True

3. Summary Completion 完成短文

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. upbringing | 2. plays |
| 3. poems | 4. theatre |
| 5. rebuilt | 6. tragedies |
| 7. comedies | 8. themes |
| 9. murder | 10. major |

2. Reading Quiz 2 阅读测验 2

1. He was born in Stratford-Upon-Avon.
2. He had three children.
3. He wrote 38 plays.
4. It's a tragedy.
Romeo and Juliet is a tragedy.
5. It means 'honest behaviour'.
'Fair play' means 'honest behaviour'.
6. c
7. a
8. b
9. a
10. c

4. Wordsearch 单词搜索

										w	
	a	c	t	i	n	g				r	
			h							i	
			e					c		t	
p			a					l	o	v	e
l	u	s	t						m		r
a			r	r				p	o	e	m
y			e		a			o		d	
						g	w		y		
							e				
							r	d			
									y		