



Shakespeare Context

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Shakespeare's Timeline

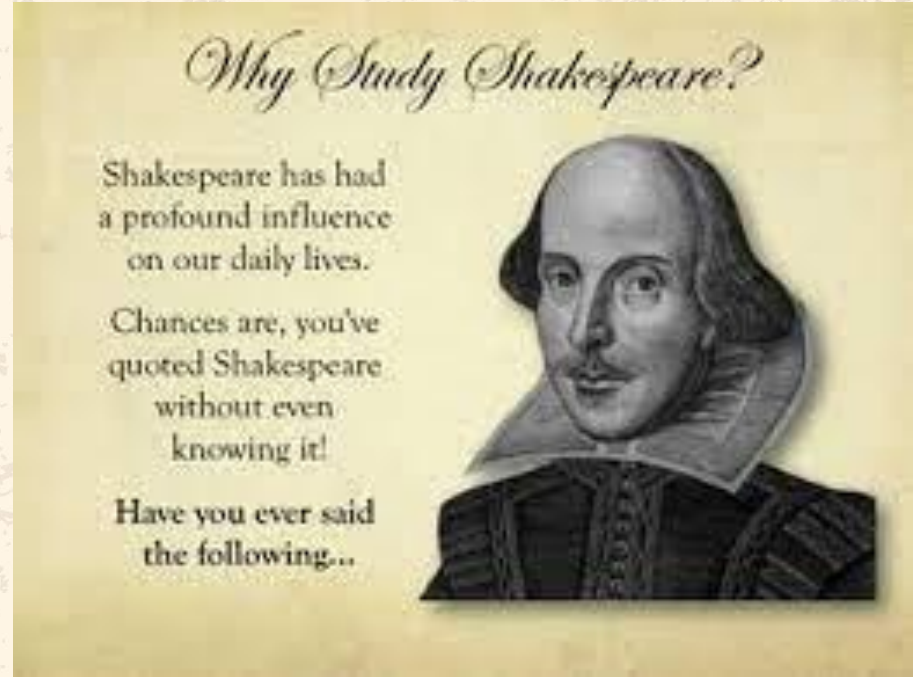


- **Shakespeare was born on 1564 on or near 23rd of April**
- He went to a good school in Stratford and got education, but had to leave when he was a teenager because his father didn't have enough money
- **In 1582 he then married Anne Hathaway. He was younger than his wife.**
- He had a daughter in 1582, then in 1585 he had twins, however one of them died at a young age
- Before 1592 he started working as an actor and playwright, other playwrights didn't like him because he didn't finish university
- **From 1592 until 1594, he wrote a lot of historical dramas**
- Because of the plague he then wrote poems and sonnets, he had already wrote over 100 sonnets
- In 1594, he was very successful and became a member of the "Lord Chamberlain's men"
- Because of his success he earned a lot of money even though other writers were not that rich at that time. In 1597, he bought one of the best houses for his family who stayed in Stratford
- He moved to London with his own family, but didn't buy a house for himself
- Shakespeare then wrote his greatest play in 1599 after his company moved to The Globe Theatre.
- **Macbeth was written in 1606**
- The name of the group then changed to "King's men" in 1603 and Shakespeare wrote plays for them until 1608
- He continued to write more plays to 1611
- **He then died in 1616 and was buried in the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford**

Why did Shakespeare started to write poems and sonnets?



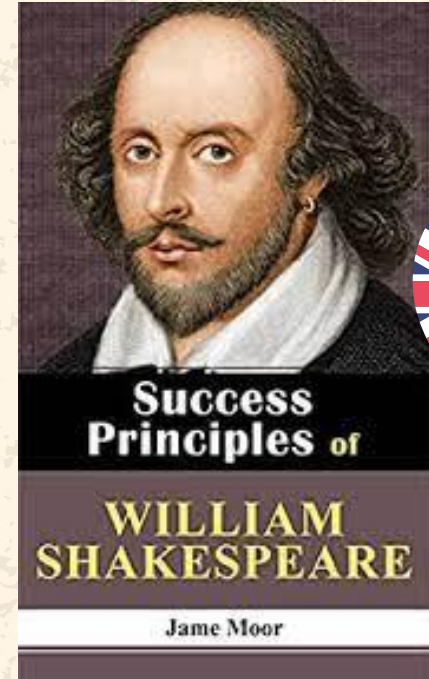
Shakespeare started to write poems and sonnets because at one time during his career of writing plays and dramas. The plague made it hard for people to come together and watch or do the plays it was too risky. Since Shakespeare knew that even though if he wrote his plays they won't be performed until the plague was gone. Because he liked writing and was talented, he then wrote poems and sonnets to continue to write about his ideas of love, death, revenge, grief, jealousy, murder, mystery, etc.



Why was Shakespeare very successful?



He was successful because his plays that he wrote were similar but better than other plays before and during his time. He was also able to use sonnets and poems that he wrote to make his plays more interesting. He also had the insight to put himself into his character's shoes and imagine what they would do. He then expressed the character's feelings and motives into his play and poems. As a result he was and now still known as one of the best writers in the world.



Why did Shakespeare started to write Macbeth?



Macbeth is a play written around 1606 by William Shakespeare. Shakespeare was writing for the theatre during the reigns of Queen Elizabeth I and King James I. The plays he wrote around the time Queen Elizabeth was in control such as Midsummer night's dreams contain themes of confidence, happiness and love.

Shakespeare wrote Macbeth as a tribute to King James I, who became king a few years before the play was first performed. Shakespeare also wanted to caution against abuses of power and the instability which follows from political violence.

He wrote Macbeth to support the kingship of James 1st and to support the natural order of things which if disturbed, will inevitably lead to disaster.



Where did Shakespeare get the idea for Macbeth?

Shakespeare's source for the story is the account of Macbeth, King of Scotland, Macduff, and Duncan in Holinshed's Chronicles (1587), a history of England, Scotland, and Ireland familiar to Shakespeare and his contemporaries, although the events in the play differ extensively from the history of the real Macbeth.



Why Macbeth is still popular today?

Although Macbeth is set in a very particular place and time, many of its themes relating to human nature still ring true today. This speaks for why, centuries after it was first performed, this play remains one of William Shakespeare's most popular works.

One of the strongest elements of this story are the uniqueness of the characters. The story of Macbeth shows how the blind ambitious could lead people to madness. Macbeth wanted to be king badly so he had to kill the king in order to gain power. Not only that, maintaining the power led him to kill more people. The guilt of killing started to haunt him and it made him to become a paranoid reckless.



Do you know that ... ?



1. Macbeth was loosely based on a real king

The character Macbeth was loosely based on Mac Bethad mac Findláich, a King of Scotland in the 11th century. There are some key differences between Shakespeare's story and the reality though and, where the Bard portrays Macbeth's reign as short and bloody, the real king was generally perceived to be quite a successful and fair ruler, reigning from 1040 until 1057.

2. It is a relatively short play

Coming in at 17,121 words, *Macbeth* is actually one of Shakespeare's shorter plays and around half the length of *Hamlet*.



Thank you for listening!



Farewell! God knows when we
shall meet again.

~ William Shakespeare

AZ QUOTES

