

William Shakespeare Scavenger Hunt

8th Grade Pre-A Z

Name: _____

Period: _____

Due Date: _____



Starting with the basics...

1. Where was **Shakespeare** born?
2. Who were his parents?
3. When was **Shakespeare** baptized?
4. What was his father's occupation?
5. Who did **Shakespeare** marry?
6. How many kids did he have? What were their names?
7. When did **Shakespeare** arrive in London?
8. To what acting company did **Shakespeare** belong?
9. What was the title of his first play?

10. How many plays did he write? How many sonnets?
11. On what play do many scholars believe *Othello* is based?
12. Approximately how many different words did **Shakespeare** utilize (or create) in the English Language?
13. When did **Shakespeare** die?

Now presenting in the Globe Theater...

14. When was the Globe theater built?
15. Where was it located?
16. When did it burn down? How did the fire start?
17. Briefly describe how the audience was divided and arranged for performances.
18. How many people could the Globe hold for a performance?
19. Who performed there?
20. Who played the female roles in the play?

A few miscellaneous tidbits...

21. Briefly describe the difference between a comedy and a tragedy.

22. Some people do not think that **Shakespeare** wrote the plays accredited to his name. Who do some people believe wrote Shakespeare's plays?
23. Approximately how many people lived in London (its city proper & suburbs) during Shakespeare's time?
24. How big was the next largest city in Europe?
25. What was the black plague? How many people did it kill? What effect did it have on the public theater?
26. What are the four humors? Briefly describe each one.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Queen of England...

27. List the order of monarch who reigned during Shakespeare's life.
28. Why did Henry VIII create the Church of England?
29. Under which monarch did England temporarily return to Catholicism?
30. Why didn't Queen Elizabeth marry while she held the throne?
31. How was Mary Queen of Scots related to Elizabeth? Why was she executed?
32. About which monarchs did **Shakespeare** write history plays?

A bit about the science of the time...

33. Briefly describe Machiavelii's philosophical views on religion and the monarchy.
34. Briefly describe the Ptolemaic system of the universe.
35. What is alchemy and how did its study benefit modern chemistry?

You're hired as chief Dramaturges...

36. Who are the moors? Where did they come from? What were they doing in Europe in the sixteenth century?
37. Where is Cyprus? What was its importance in the sixteenth century?
38. What was the economic state of Venice in the sixteenth century?

Trivia Time!

39. Who is the Artistic Director of the Globe?
40. What is the "frons Scenae?"
41. What are the dimensions of the stage in the Globe Theater?

42. How many sides did historians originally think the Globe had? How many did they decide it really had?

43. During the Opening Season (1996) **Henry V** was performed. What covered the stage floor for this production?

Find It and Print It. Staple your copy to the back of this sheet when you turn it in.

- a. a Renaissance era picture of a sword used as a prop
- b. a picture of an Elizabethan barn
- c. a aerial map of early modern London, showing the major playhouses
- d. *The Bankside Theatres* by Visscher
- e. a picture of the original globe