Content Advisory: Henry V is a gritty drama about the English King’s bloody conquest of France. Violent battle scenes are depicted on stage, including realistic sword fights, stabbing, and death. The play is best suited for ages 13 and up.
# Henry V

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Educators:

First, let me thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to bring the joy of theatre arts to your classroom. We at Orlando Shakes are well aware of the demands on your time and it is our goal to offer you supplemental information to compliment your curriculum with ease and expediency.

With that in mind, we’ve redesigned our curriculum guides to be more “user friendly.” We’ve offered you activities that you may do in one class period with minimal additional materials. These exercises will aid you in preparing your students to see a production, as well as applying what you’ve experienced when you return to school. We’ve included Sunshine and Common Core Standards to assure you that those curriculum needs are being met.

It is our hope that by streamlining our guides they will invite you to dip in to grab historical background on an author or playwright, a concise plot summary and colorful character descriptions, discussion questions to explore in class or as writing assignments and interactive activities to bring the magic of live performance back to your classroom. And, of course, how to prepare your students to enjoy live theater.

We look forward to hosting you at the Lowndes Shakespeare Theater. Additionally, should you wish to bring our Actor/Educators into your classroom, we will work around your schedule. Feel free to contact us at Orlando Shakes should you have any questions or suggestions on how we can better serve you. We are always learning from you. Thank you for your tremendous work in nurturing our audiences of tomorrow.

Bravo!

Anne Hering
Director of Education
Theater Is A Team Sport

The **Playwright** writes the script. Sometimes it is from an original idea and sometimes it is adapted from a book or story. The Playwright decides what the characters say, and gives the Designers guidelines on how the play should look.

The **Director** creates the vision for the production and works closely with the actors, costume, set and lighting designers to make sure everyone tells the same story.

The **Actors** use their bodies and voices to bring the author’s words and the director’s ideas to life on the stage.

The **Designers** imagine and create the lights, scenery, props, costumes and sound that will compliment and complete the director’s vision.

The **Stage Manager** assists the director during rehearsals by recording their instructions and making sure the actors and designers understand these ideas. The Stage Manager then runs the show during each performance by calling cues for lights and sound, as well as entrances and exits.

The **Shop and Stage Crew** builds the set, props and costumes according to the designer’s plans. The Stage Crew sets the stage with props and furniture, assists the actors with costume changes and operates sound, lighting and stage machinery during each performance.

The **Front of House Staff** welcomes you to the theater, takes your tickets, helps you find your seat and answers any question you may have on the day of performance.

The **Theater** is where it all takes place. Orlando Shakespeare Theater In Partnership with UCF is the only professional, classical theater company in Central Florida, reaching students and audiences in the surrounding eight counties.

**Mission/Vision:**
With Shakespeare as our standard and inspiration, the Orlando Shakespeare Theater In Partnership with UCF produces bold professional theater, develops new plays, and provides innovative educational experiences that enrich our community. Our vision is to create theater of extraordinary quality that encourages the actor/audience relationship, embraces the passionate use of language, and ignites the imagination.
The Actor/Audience Relationship

The Audience is the reason Live Theater exists. At Orlando Shakes, we cherish the Actor/Audience relationship, the unique give and take that exists during a performance which makes the audience an ACTIVE participant in the event. The actors see the audience just as the audience sees the actors, and every laugh, sniffle, chuckle and gasp the audience makes effects the way the actor plays his next moment. We want you to be engaged, and to live the story with us!

There are certain Conventions of the Theatrical Event, like, when the lights go down you know that the show is about to start, and that the audience isn’t encouraged to come and go during a performance. Here are some other tips to help you and your classmates be top notch audience members:

- Please make sure to turn off your cell phones. And NO TEXTING!
- Please stay in your seat. Try to use the restroom before you take your seat and stay in your seat unless there is an emergency.
- Please do not eat or drink in the theater.

Talkback

After the performance, the actors will stay on stage for about 10 minutes to hear your comments and answer any questions you have about the play, the production and what it means to be a professional actor. We’d love to hear what you felt about the play, what things were clear or unclear to you, and hear your opinions about what the play means. This last portion of the Actor/Audience Relationship is so important to help us better serve you!

Here are some things to think about while watching the show. You might be asked these questions in the talkback!

1. What is the effect of actors playing multiple characters in the play? Is it confusing? Why or why not? How does it change the impact of the scenes?
2. How did the director and designers let you know the location had changed on stage?
3. How did you know time had passed?
4. Note when the actors directly address the audience. Why do you think they do this at some times and not others? How does it make you feel?
King Henry V needs to decide if he should go to war with France in order to claim the throne. The Bishop of Canterbury explains that Henry’s claim to the throne is legitimate, so Henry and his court decide to invade France. Soon after Henry receives an insulting gift from the Dauphin, the heir to the French throne. This gift strengthens King Henry’s resolve.

At an Eastcheap inn, Henry’s old friends Pistol, Nym, and Bardolph learn that the knight Sir John Falstaff is near death. Meanwhile, three English noblemen— Richard, Earl of Cambridge; Henry, Lord Scroop of Masham; and Sir Thomas Grey, knight, of Northumberland—plot against the King’s life. Henry learns of their plot and asks them whether he should kill a prisoner. When each conspirator says that Henry should show the prisoner no mercy, Henry announces his intent to execute them. Soon after, Falstaff dies in Eastcheap.

Before the battle, Henry delivers an inspirational speech that encourages his men to fight valiantly, despite being heavily outnumbered. The English are victorious. When faced with defeat on the field of Agincourt, the French nobility decide to die fighting. Eventually, however, they send Montjoy to concede defeat to Henry. Henry orders Fluellen to wear Williams’ glove in his cap, but sends men after Fluellen to prevent Williams from fighting with him. Fluellen and Henry find Williams, and instead of punishing him, the king rewards him with a glove-full of crowns. Henry then learns that ten thousand French soldiers died, but only twenty-nine men of his own forces. He attributes his victory to divine powers.

King Henry and his army then return to England, but Henry soon returns to France to woo Princess Katherine while his nobles negotiate a peace treaty. The language barrier between Henry and Katherine is a problem, and Henry also faces the challenge of gaining Katharine’s trust, as she is still suspicious of him. When Henry admits that he cannot flirt with women at all, Katherine agrees to marry him. With this, the French monarchs name Henry the heir to the French throne with Katherine as his queen.

www.folger.edu
The **Chorus** leads the audience through the play, explaining those things that the theatre lacks the ability, the budget, or the time to show.

**King Henry V** is the same character as the Harry of *Henry IV, Part One* and *Part Two*. He is a young man who when he was heir to the throne pretended to be dissolute so that he would impress his subjects by becoming a good man the moment he took power.

**Humphrey, Duke of Gloucester** is King Henry’s brother, the same as the Humphrey of Gloucester of *Henry IV, Part Two*.

**John, Duke of Bedford** is King Henry’s brother, and the same as the John Duke of Lancaster of *Henry IV, Part Two*.

**Thomas, Duke of Clarence** [mute role] is King Henry’s brother, the same character as in *Henry IV, Part Two*.

**The Duke of Exeter** is King Henry’s uncle and one of his chief supporters and closest advisors.

**The Duke of York** is the King’s cousin.

**The Earl of Salisbury** is one of King Henry’s noblemen, in charge of one section of the English army.

**The Earl of Westmorland** is one of King Henry’s noblemen, who helps to incite him to war against France. He despises traitors. He is the same as the Westmorland of *Henry IV, Part Two*.

**The Earl of Warwick** is the King’s cousin, whom Henry involves in his prank on Fluellen and Williams.

**The Archbishop of Canterbury** incites King Henry to war against France, mostly to get the Church out of having to lose most of its revenue.

**The Bishop of Ely** is worried that the Church will lose most of its revenue, and works with the Archbishop of Canterbury to avoid this by convincing Henry to go to war against France.

**Earl of Cambridge, Lord Scroop of Masham, Thomas Grey and the Knight of Northumberland** are traitors to the English Crown.

**Sir Thomas Erpingham** is an old, white-haired soldier in the English army, well-respected by the men. He summons the King’s war council, and lends Henry his cloak.

**Captain Gower** is an officer in the English army who is friendly with Fluellen, if somewhat overwhelmed by the Welshman’s know-it-all-ness.

**Captain Fluellen** is a Welsh officer in the English army who is obsessed with military history and deeply proud of his nationality.

**Captain Jamy, John Bates, Alexander Court and Michael Williams** are English soldiers in the war.
Pistol is the same character as the Pistol of *Henry IV, Part Two*, formerly one of Falstaff’s companions and now a soldier in Henry’s army, with the rank of Ancient (Ensign).

Nym is a corporal in the army, and one of Falstaff’s former companions.

Bardolph is one of Falstaff’s old companions and now a soldier in the French army, the same character as the Bardolph of *Henry IV, Part Two*.

The Boy is in the service of Pistol, Nim, and Bardolph, and was once Falstaff’s page, in *Henry IV, Part Two*.

Charles VI is the King of France, whose claim to the throne King Henry does not recognize.

The Dauphin is the son of King Charles of France, and heir to the throne.

The Duke of Burgundy is a neutral party in the war, as loyal to England as to France, and therefore serves as negotiator between the two parties after the Battle of Agincourt.

Duke of Orleance (Orléans) is a French nobleman and war leader who thinks better of the Dauphin than most.

The Duke of Bourbon is a French nobleman and war leader.

The Dukes of Britain, Berri, Beaumont, and Burgundy are members of the court who hold high positions in the French Army.

The Constable of France (Charles Delabret) is a high-ranking French nobleman, one of the more cautious of the French war leaders.

Lord Grandpré is a French nobleman and soldier who leads the first line of Frenchmen at Agincourt and therefore has a lot of leisure to study the English before the battle begins.

Governor of Harfleur holds the city for the King of France, and holds off King Henry’s siege for as long as he can.

Queen Isabel is Charles of France’s wife.

Katherine is the daughter of Charles VI of France.

Alice is Catherine’s waiting-woman.

Hostess is the same as Hostess Quickly of *Henry IV, Part Two*. Despite having become engaged to Nim, she has recently married Pistol.
Meet the Playwright

- William Shakespeare is a mystery. He never went to college, only the local grammar school, but ended up writing the most famous plays in the history of the world. How did it happen? Nobody really knows.

- We know very little about Shakespeare's personal life, his childhood and his marriage when you think about the impact he's had on our world. We have none of Shakespeare's letters, diaries, or original manuscripts. All we have is his signature on a couple of legal documents. In fact, the lack of information on him has made a lot of people argue that he never really wrote all those plays or even existed at all!

- Never forget, Shakespeare wrote his plays to be PERFORMED not read. Never sit down to READ one of his plays if you don't know it. Get up and try ACTING IT OUT. You'll be surprised how much you'll understand. Reading Shakespeare is ALWAYS hard, Performing him is EASY.

- Will wrote over 40 plays, but only 37 have survived. He wrote every kind of story you can think of- tragedies, comedies, histories. 22 of his plays were about WAR. Guess he had human nature down... In his plays you can find teenagers fighting with their parents, teenagers running away, teenagers falling in love, ghosts, gods, witches, drunks, murderers, a woman caressing her lover's body minus its head, a woman caressing her lover's head minus its body, weddings, funerals, death by stabbing, suffocation, poison, decapitation, spiking, hanging, execution, being made into a meat-pie, and drowning in a vat of wine. The point is that Shakespeare did it ALL!

- Everybody went to see Shakespeare's plays: children, peasants, royalty, merchants, every kind of person from every social group and clique. It was the one place where a beggar could rub elbows with the rich and famous. Remember there were no televisions, no radios, no magazines, and only the beginnings of newspapers. Not that newspapers mattered much considering most people COULDN'T read or write! Aside from the plays, there were bear-baitings, cockfights, bull-baitings and if you were lucky, the occasional execution. That was all. Seeing one of his plays was something like a cross between a Magic basketball game and a rock concert. It was noisy, crazy, usually messy, and a whole lot of fun.

Shakespeare's Early Years

- William Shakespeare was born on April 23, 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. He died on the exact same day fifty-two years later, in 1616. He lived during what was called the Elizabethan Era because at that time the queen of England was Queen Elizabeth I.

- William Shakespeare's father, John Shakespeare, was a glovemaker by trade and ran a 'general store'. He was a prominent citizen in the town of Stratford-upon-Avon and even served as mayor for a term. The very first mention of John Shakespeare is in 1552. He was fined for keeping a 'dunghill' in front of his house. When William was eight years old, his father's fortunes started to decline. His father stopped going to church meetings and town council meetings, and his application for a coat-of-arms was turned down. A 'coat-of-arms' was an important status symbol in Elizabethan England. Today it would be like the U.S. Government and everybody else in the country recognizing that you and your family were upper class and treating you like you were somebody important. Basically, you got invited to all the 'A-List' parties. Nobody knows why John Shakespeare’s mysterious decline occurred.

- Shakespeare's mother was Mary Arden, a young lady from a prominent Catholic family. She married John Shakespeare in 1557 and they had seven children. William's older sisters Joan and Margaret died when they were babies. His younger sister Anne died when he was fifteen. The most of what we know about his three younger brothers is the youngest was named Edmund and that he later became an actor in London. Edmund died at age twenty-seven and was buried in London. We don't really know much about Shakespeare's other two brothers.

- As far as Shakespeare's education, even less is known. We assume he went to the local public grammar/elementary school in Stratford, but there are no records to prove it. We're also pretty sure he never went to college or university (pretty incredible when you consider Shakespeare invented over 2500 words that we still use everyday-including the words “puke”, “eyeball”, and “vulnerable”). In fact, after his baptism the next record we have of William Shakespeare is his marriage in 1582 to Anne Hathaway. William was eighteen years old when he married and Anne was twenty-six. Anne was also several months pregnant! Susanna, Shakespeare's first child, was born in 1583. Two years later, Shakespeare and Anne had twins, Judith and Hamnet. Sadly, Hamnet died only eleven years later. There is no record of his cause of death. William was
deeply affected by his only son's death and after it spent more time in Stratford, traveling to London only for important theater business.

**The London Years**

- Nobody knows exactly when William Shakespeare moved to London or how he supported himself once he got there. We do know he was an actor before he was a playwright. Even when he was thriving as a playwright, he still found time to act in his own plays. He played roles such as Adam in *As You Like It* and the ghost of Hamlet's father in *Hamlet*.

- In 1589-92, Shakespeare's first plays were all HITS in London. By 1594, Shakespeare's own acting troupe, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, became the premier acting company in London.

- In 1598, Shakespeare built his famous theater- The Globe Theater. It was located on the south bank of the Thames River in London. The new theater's motto was "Totus mundus agit histrionem" or in English instead of Latin "All the world's a stage".

- The Globe Theater could accommodate over 3,000 spectators and admission in the early 1600's was one penny. The Globe had twenty sides and was an “open-air” theater, meaning there was no roof in the center. What roof there was, was thatched (made of hay). The rest of the building was made of wood. From above it looked like a large donut. Performances were given every day from 2-5 in the afternoon (so the sunlight wouldn't bother the audience or the actors) except Sunday. The beginning of a show was signaled by three blasts from a trumpet and a flag raised at the same time: black for tragedy, red for history, and white for comedy. Why didn't they just pass out leaflets? Going to plays was considered immoral and advertising for plays was prohibited. Yet, everybody came! Vendors at the shows sold beer, water, oranges, gingerbread, apples, and nuts. All of these were THROWN at the actors if the audience didn't like the show! Audience members also frequently talked back to the actors. For example, if a murderer was sneaking up on somebody, the audience usually screamed out "LOOK BEHIND YOU!"

- On June 29, 1613, the Globe Theater burned to the ground. It was during a performance of *Henry the Eighth*. The cannon shots that were fired to 'announce the arrival of the king' during the first act of the play misfired and engulfed the thatched roof in flames. One man's breeches (pants) caught on fire but before he got hurt badly somebody dumped their beer on him and put it out! While the rest of the audience escaped unharmed, The Globe Theater was completely destroyed. Thirty years later, an ordinance (law) was passed to close all theatres. Acting and plays were outlawed because they were considered immoral.

**The Later Years**

- Back in Stratford, William Shakespeare enjoyed his retirement and his status as 'Gentleman'. He purchased 'New House', the second largest home in Stratford-upon-Avon and often invited his friends and fellow artists over to hang out. One such visit is recorded in the journal of John Ward, a vicar in Stratford. He wrote, "Shakespeare, Drayton, and Ben Johnson had a merry meeting, and it seems drank too hard, for Shakespeare died of a fever there contracted". Shakespeare indeed died thereafter and was buried in his family's church in Stratford on his birthday in 1616.

- In all, Shakespeare had written over 40 plays in two years. Two members of his acting company, the Lord Chamberlain's Men, published all the plays they could find in 1623. This collection of 37 of Shakespeare's plays has come to be known as The First Folio. If it had not been for these two men, John Heminges and Henry Condell, we might have no record of William Shakespeare's work and the world as we know it would be a very different place. In the preface to the Folio these men wrote, "We have but collected them (the plays) and done an office to the dead... without ambition either of self-profit or fame; only to keep the memory of so worthy a friend alive, as was our Shakespeare".

- Shakespeare's friend and fellow playwright Ben Johnson wrote this about Shakespeare when William died- "... I loved the man, and do honor his memory as much as any. He was indeed honest, and of an open and free nature: had excellent fantasies, brave notions, and gentle expressions..."
## Shakespeare’s Plays

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<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1589</td>
<td>Comedy of Errors</td>
<td>1599</td>
<td>Twelfth Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>1590</td>
<td>Henry VI, Part II</td>
<td>1599</td>
<td>As You Like It</td>
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<td>1591</td>
<td>Henry VI, Part III</td>
<td>1599</td>
<td>Julius Caesar</td>
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<td>1592</td>
<td>Henry VI, Part I</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Hamlet</td>
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<td>1593</td>
<td>Richard III</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Merry Wives of Windsor</td>
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<td>1594</td>
<td>Taming of the Shrew</td>
<td>1601</td>
<td>Troilus and Cressida</td>
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<td>1595</td>
<td>Titus Andronicus</td>
<td>1602</td>
<td>All’s Well That Ends Well</td>
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<td>1596</td>
<td>Two Gentlemen of Verona</td>
<td>1604</td>
<td>Othello</td>
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<td>1597</td>
<td>Love's Labour's Lost</td>
<td>1605</td>
<td>Measure for Measure</td>
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<td>1598</td>
<td>Richard II</td>
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<td>King Lear</td>
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<td>1599</td>
<td>Midsummer Night’s Dream</td>
<td>1607</td>
<td>Antony and Cleopatra</td>
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<td>1600</td>
<td>King John</td>
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<td>1601</td>
<td>Merchant of Venice</td>
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<td>Henry IV, Part II</td>
<td>1611</td>
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<td>1604</td>
<td>Henry V</td>
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<td>Cymbeline</td>
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<td>1605</td>
<td>Much Ado about Nothing</td>
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<td>Winter's Tale</td>
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<td>1606</td>
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<td>Tempest</td>
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Elizabethan Theater

Statistics from the late 16th century suggest that more than 10% of the population regularly attended plays. The first regular London playhouse, The Theatre, had been built by the actor and carpenter, J. Burbage, in 1576. Actually, it was built just outside the city of London in order to escape the Puritan civic authorities. Up to this time players had been forced to perform mostly in inn yards. In the typical Elizabethan playhouse:

- The overall shape was roughly round or octagonal shaped with an open space in the middle, or an unroofed yard surrounded by one or two galleries.
- The stage was an open platform, jutting out into the center of the yard.
- Under the stage, hidden by drapery, was a cellar with machinery for projecting ghosts and devils through trapdoors.
- Above the stage the first gallery provided an open balcony which could be used for appearances of actors.
- Above the balcony was a hut to house machinery to raise or lower actors or property onto the stage.

The audience could stand around the stage, on three sides, for the payment of a penny. In the galleries, the best places cost as much as sixpence. Depending on the theatre, there were as many as 2,000 to 3,000 places for spectators.

Shakespeare’s company, the King’s Men, owned and produced their plays in the Globe Theatre, which they opened in 1589. Like many others of its time, it was an open-roofed structure with a jutting stage, surrounded by curving balcony of seats. The stage itself was roofed and had many levels, so that almost any kind of scene could be represented.

There was little in the way of props and scenery. Shakespeare’s play often contain prologues apologizing for the poverty of the set and inviting the viewers to use their imaginations. The plays are full of vivid speeches that use words to create the scene for the audience.

In an open theatre, plays were performed during the day with no lighting available beyond natural daylight. In an enclosed theatre, such as the Blackfriars which the King’s Men purchased in 1609, evening performances could be given by torch and candlelight. This type of performance was more expensive and attracted a higher class audience.

Theatre companies during Shakespeare’s time consisted of male actors only; no women appeared on the stage. Young men dressed in women’s clothing played these parts. The theatre was considered too vulgar an environment for women and a temptation to public “immorality.” Needless to say, the men were presented with the same temptations, but it was considered more socially acceptable for them. Although an actor could make a good living, the profession was not considered respectable and the association between acting and a “loose” lifestyle is one that lives on today.
SHAKESPEARE TABOO

From assassination to zany, Shakespeare has given us words that we encounter every day. It is almost impossible to discuss such diverse subjects as advertising, business, law, medicine, or even dinner engagements and romance without using a word first penned by the Bard.

In this activity, students will be introduced to some of these terms and gain a new appreciation for Shakespeare. Each card contains a word first penned by Shakespeare, its definition, derivation, and the play(s) in which it first appeared.

You will need:

Shakespeare Taboo cards
A one minute timer

Print pages 13 and 14 of this Curriculum Guide and cut them into cards, each with one word that Shakespeare coined. Divide class into two teams, sitting on opposite sides of the room. Decide which team will go first. Each team has one minute. One person from that team is the "giver," who takes the top card and attempts to prompt his or her teammates to guess the word at the top. Unlike traditional Taboo, he may use any information on the card as well as break the word down into syllables or get his teammates to say words that rhyme with the word or a syllable in the word. For instance, if the word is “dwindle”, the student may say, “This word means to decrease or shrink. It has two syllables. The first syllable rhymes with thin. The second syllable sounds like a word for not sharp (dull).” The giver may only use speech to prompt his or her teammates; gestures, sounds (e.g. barking), or drawings are not allowed.

While the giver is prompting the teammates they may make as many guesses as they want with no penalties for wrong guesses. Once the team correctly guesses the word exactly as written on the card, the giver sits down and the next person from his/her team moves on to the next word on the next card, trying to get as many words as possible in the allotted time. A player may choose to “pass,” and give the next player from their team their card. When time runs out, play passes to the other team. The playing team receives one point for correct guesses. When you’ve gone through all of the cards, the team with the best score wins.
### AROUSE (v)

**To stir or awaken; to excite**
Shakespeare added the prefix *a-*.
*arouse* is formed from the verb *rouse*
which in Middle English had as its original sense “to shake the feathers”
describing the behavior of hawks trained for hunting.

*2 Henry VI, The Two Noble Kinsmen*

### MOONBEAM (n)

**Ray of reflected light from the moon**
Shakespeare was the first to coin the compound word
*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

### FARMHOUSE (n)

**Farmer’s home; rural dwelling**
*Farm* is from the fourteenth century from the Old French term meaning “lease,” based on the Latin verb *firmare*, “to make firm.”
Shakespeare coined the compound word, hyphenating it as *farm-house. The Merry Wives of Windsor*

### ASSASSINATION (n)

**Murder of a prominent person**
The noun *assassin* appeared in English in the 13th c deriving from an Arabic word denoting a sectarian group whose members took hashish or marijuana before killing a king or public figure. From the Arabic root of *assassin*, meaning “eater of hashish.” *Macbeth*

### PUKE (v)

**To vomit**
Possibly from the Old English *spiwan* (“to spew or spit”) and the modern German verb with the same meaning, *spucken.*
*As You Like It*

### BUMP (n)

**Swelling or raised spot on a surface**
Both noun and verb are probably onomatopoeic, reflecting the sound of a blow. Shakespeare’s *bump* is a swelling that might be caused by a blow.
*Romeo and Juliet*

### FLAWED (adj)

**Imperfect; showing a weakness or imperfection**
Shakespeare coined the adjective, based on the Middle English *flaw*, meaning “flake or chip.” *King Lear, Henry VIII*

### BEDROOM (n)

**Space for sleeping; area in or for a bed**
Shakespeare uses *bed-room* to mean “room or space within a bed,” not the modern “room with a bed.”
*A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

### CIRCUMSTANTIAL (adj)

**Indirect; dependent upon circumstances or situation**
Shakespeare added the suffix *ial* to the noun *circumstance*, which refers to the incidental or “surrounding” details (such as time, place, manner or occasion) of an action.
*As You Like It*

### CRITIC (n)

**One who passes judgement or expresses a reasoned opinion; reviewer**
From the Greek verb *krinein*, “to judge or decide.” *Love’s Labors Lost*

### FORTUNE-TELLER (n)

**Seer or prophet; one who professes to see the future**
Shakespeare was the first to coin the compound word.
The Comedy of Errors, The Merry Wives of Windsor

### SWAGGER (v)

**To bluster or walk arrogantly; to act superior; to bully**
Perhaps from the Norwegian word *svagga* (“to sway in walking”)
*A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Troilus and Cressida, 2 Henry IV*

### CRITIC (n)

**Of noble birth; kind; freely giving or liberal**
From the Latin genus (“birth” or “decent”).
*Love’s Labors Lost*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>GLOOMY (adj)</strong></th>
<th><strong>ADDITION (n)</strong></th>
<th><strong>PREMEDITATED (adj)</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dark and dismal; depressing</td>
<td>Leaning or inclination; devotion to a habit</td>
<td>Contemplated or thought about beforehand; planned</td>
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<td>Shakespeare coined the adjective from the earlier verb gloom, meaning “to look, feel or act sullen or despondent.”</td>
<td>From the Latin <em>addicere</em>, meaning “to favor.” <em>Henry V</em>, <em>Othello</em></td>
<td>From the Latin prefix pra-“, “before,” and the verb <em>meditari</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>1 Henry V</em></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>1 Henry VI</em>, <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>HURRY (v)</strong></th>
<th><strong>LUGGAGE (n)</strong></th>
<th><strong>UNAWARE (adv)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>To rush or move quickly</td>
<td>Something lugged; baggage belonging to a traveler</td>
<td>Unknowingly; suddenly; without warning</td>
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<td>Of unknown origin. <em>The Comedy of Errors</em>, <em>Venus and Adonis</em></td>
<td>From the verb <em>lug</em>, from Middle English <em>luggen</em>, “to pull or drag by the hair or ear.” <em>1 Henry IV</em>, <em>The Tempest</em></td>
<td>From the Old English <em>waer</em>, “careful or wary.” <em>Venus and Adonis</em>, <em>3 Henry VI</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>VULNERABLE (adj)</strong></th>
<th><strong>EYEBALL (n)</strong></th>
<th><strong>SHOOTING-STAR (n)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Immune to harm or injury, having no weakness</td>
<td>Rounded capsule that forms the eye; organ for vision</td>
<td>Meteor appearing like a streak of light</td>
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<td>From the Latin <em>vulnerare</em>, “to wound or injure.”</td>
<td><em>Eye</em> may be traced back to Old English and Germanic <em>toots</em>. Shakespeare was the first to use the compound word. <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em>, <em>The Tempest</em></td>
<td>Shakespeare coined this compound word</td>
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<td><em>Invulnerable: King John</em>, <em>Hamlet</em>, <em>The Tempest</em></td>
<td><em>Vulnerable: Macbeth</em></td>
<td><em>Richard II</em></td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>LONELY (adj)</strong></th>
<th><strong>DWINDLE (v)</strong></th>
<th><strong>WORTHLESS (adj)</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Having no companionship; feeling cut off or desolate</td>
<td>To decrease or shrink; to become less</td>
<td>Having no value or merit; contemptible</td>
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<td>Coined from alone, from the Old English combination of <em>al</em> (“all”) and <em>an</em> (“one”). <em>Coriolanus</em>, <em>The Winter’s Tale</em></td>
<td>Probably based on Middle English <em>divine</em>, meaning “to waste away”. <em>1 Henry IV</em>, <em>Macbeth</em></td>
<td>Shakespeare added he suffix to the Old English root <em>weorth</em> (“worthy”)</td>
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<td><em>3 Henry VI</em>, <em>The Two Gentlemen of Verona</em>, <em>Titus Andronicus</em>, <em>1 Henry VI</em>, <em>2 Henry VI</em></td>
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<th><strong>MIMIC (n)</strong></th>
<th><strong>MANAGER (n)</strong></th>
<th><strong>SKIM-MILK (n)</strong></th>
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<td>Performer skilled at imitating or aping</td>
<td>One who controls or directs; person in charge</td>
<td>Milk with its cream removed</td>
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<td>From the Greek mimos for “mime or actor.” <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em></td>
<td>From the Latin <em>manus</em>, “hand.” <em>Love’s Labor’s Lost</em>, <em>A Midsummer Night’s Dream</em></td>
<td>Shakespeare coined this compound word</td>
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<th><strong>STEALTHY (adj)</strong></th>
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<td>Moving or acting furtively; secret</td>
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<td>Shakespeare coined the adjective</td>
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<td><em>Macbeth</em></td>
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Paraphrasing is Orlando Shakespeare Theater’s primary tool for unlocking Shakespeare’s text, both in the classroom and for our professional company. What is the definition of paraphrasing?

Paraphrase: n. a rewording of the meaning of something spoken or written.

Example:
In *Henry V*, King Henry says,

“But if it be a sin to covet honour, I am the most offending soul alive.”

He figuratively means, “Doing the honorable thing is more important to me than being pure.”

Exercise:
In Act IV, Scene 3, Henry says to Westmoreland...

“All things are ready, if our mind be so.”

Exercise:
In Act V, Scene 4, Henry rallies his troops, saying...

“And gentlemen in England now-a-bed Shall think themselves accurs'd they were not here.”

Write your own paraphrasing of Henry’s words in modern day speech in the bubble above.
Write a Review

Explain to students that the director’s job is to take the words on the script from the printed page to the stage and bring them to life. Explain that theater critics review shows and publish their opinions. For AmericanTheatreCritics.org, critic Sherry Eaker wrote, “My point of view was that it wasn’t the theatre critic’s place to tell the playwright what he or she should be doing; instead, the critic should focus on what is already there and explain either why it works or why is doesn’t work.”

After seeing the production, have each student write a review of Orlando Shakes’ production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. The review should include one paragraph each for:

Introduction – What did you watch, where and when, and maybe, why?
The script – Did you like the writing, the story, the characters? Why or why not?
The score - Did you like the music? Why or why not?
The acting – Did you believe and care about the characters as portrayed? Why or why not?
The design – Did you like the set, costume and light designs? Why or why not?
The staging – How did the director stage the violence? Was it effective?
The audience – What ways did the audience respond to particular moments?
Conclusion – What will you remember about this performance?

If you wish, send your reviews to us at: anneh@orlandoshakes.org
We’d love to hear your opinions of our show!

Read more: How to Become a Theater Critic | eHow.com http://www.ehow.com/how_2079002_become-theater-critic.html#ixzz1v9tEyMnc
DISCUSSION

1. What do you think about the nature of war? Is it justifiable?
2. King Henry is persuaded to go to war by the English clergy. How many wars have been fought in the name of religion? Has an authority figure ever persuaded you to do something you wouldn’t do normally?
3. When the French army sneaks behind the English lines and kills all the young boys serving as pages, is it a violation of the “code of war?” Can a “code of war” truly exist, or does the need to win always overwhelm the “rules of the game?” Have you ever done something technically wrong to win?
4. Why does Katherine, the Princess, decide to marry Henry, whom she knows nothing about, and has never seen? What does this say about the position of women in Elizabethan society? What would you have done if you were the Princess?

THEMES

War
Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more;
Or close the wall up with our English dead!
In peace there’s nothing so becomes a man
As modest stillness and humility:
But when the blast of war blows in our ears,
Then imitate the action of the tiger;
Stiffen the sinews, summon up the blood,
Disguise fair nature with hard-favoured rage;
Then lend the eye a terrible aspect. (3.1.1)

Honor
But if it be a sin to covet honour,
I am the most offending soul alive. (4.3.31)

Leadership
Now, if these men do not die well, it will be a black matter for the king that led them to it; whom to disobey were against all proportion of subjection. (4.1.2)

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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