



ORLANDO SHAKESPEARE THEATER

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UCF

Study Guide 2017-2018

Shakespeare in Love

THE PLAY

Adapted for the stage by Lee Hall

Based on the screenplay by Marc Norman and Tom Stoppard

Music by Paddy Cunneen

Florida Standards

Language Arts

LAFS.910.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.910.RH.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.1112.SL.1: Comprehension and Collaboration
LAFS.910.W.1: Text Types and Purposes
LAFS.1112.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details
LAFS.910.RL.3: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas

Theater

TH.912.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts
TH.68.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential.

PG-13

Language, Crude Humor, Use of Tobacco, Use of Alcohol,
Sexual Content, Violence, Men as Female Characters

Most appropriate for Grade 8 and up. Children under 5 will not be admitted to the theater.

Shakespeare in Love

Table of Contents

Introduction	3
Enjoying Live Theater	
Theater is a Team Sport	4
The Actor/Audience Relationship	5
About the Play	
Plot Summary	6
Meet the Characters	7
Meet Shakespeare	8
Historical Context	11
Lesson Plan: Page to Stage	12
Activities	
Shakespeare Taboo	15
Write a Review	19
Discussion & Themes	20

Shakespeare in Love

An Introduction

Educators:

Thank you for taking the time out of your very busy schedule to bring the joy of theatre arts to your classroom. Brandon Yagel, Education Coordinator, and I 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.

1. We've added **Study Guide Spotlights** for quick reference to the standards addressed in each production.
2. We have two **NEW MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL WORKSHOPS** for your students.
 - **Shakespeare Alive Day 2** includes a mini performance by actors in your own classroom.
 - **Text Based Playwriting** helps your students prepare for testing by mapping Shakespeare speeches from *Julius Caesar* to create an acting scene of their own devising.

Additionally, please take a moment to explore our website at orlandoshakes.org/education. We've added 10-15 minute "on your feet " activities that you can do in your classroom to supplement your curriculum. We've also posted edited of Shakespeare scripts that range from 60 – 120 minutes long that are perfect for school productions. As always, we've included Sunshine Standards to assure you that those curriculum needs are being met.

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.

Anne Hering
Director of Education



Shakespeare in Love

Enjoying Live Theater

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.



Stage Manager -Stacey
Renee Norwood
Photo: Rob Jones

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.



Sound Designer -
Britt Sanducky
Photo: Rob Jones



Costume Designer -
Denise Warner
Photo: Rob Jones

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.



Creative Team of The Merry Wives of
Windsor
Photo: Rob Jones

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:

To enrich our community with engaging professional theater, inspiring educational experiences, and thought-provoking new plays.

Shakespeare in Love

Enjoying Live Theater

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, snuffle, 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!



Photo: Rob Jones

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. 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 and the production. 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 and enrich your artistic experience.

Consider the Themes and Key Questions above and ask yourself:

1. What Key Questions did the play answer?
2. Do you agree with everything the play said about these themes?
3. How did the actors, directors, and designers all address these themes?
4. What opinion did the artists bring to the process, did those opinion change throughout the process (designing, rehearsing, performing) and how did that impact their work?

Shakespeare in Love

About the Play

Summary

Young Will Shakespeare has writer's block and needs some inspiration. His ideas for his new comedy, *Romeo and Ethel the Pirate's Daughter*, are less than genius and the owner of the theatre is under scrutiny from the producer, to whom he owes money. Meanwhile, across town, a rival theatre performs Will's *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, and heaven forbid, they added a dog, all without his permission!

The high-spirited young lady, Viola De Lesseps, who knows Will's work very well, wishes to be on the stage. This, of course, is against the law in Elizabethan England, but it doesn't stop her from trying. Disguised as a young man and going by the name Thomas Kent, Viola attends auditions for Will's next play, the very one he is struggling to finish.

Viola returns home to prepare for the ball being hosted by the De Lesseps household and discovers her father has arranged a marriage for her to a Lord Wessex, a wealthy Virginia plantation owner.

Will and his playwright friend Christopher Marlowe come to her house looking for "Master Kent" to offer him the lead of *Romeo* in his play, and are invited to come in to the ball. Here Will sees Viola for the first time, and soon a scene similar to the initial meeting of *Romeo and Juliet* takes place. Will's sudden attention to Viola offends Lord Wessex, and when asked for his name, Will introduces himself as Marlowe.

Later, Viola's nurse delivers Will's message to Viola about her getting

the role in the play but warns that acting will not end well for her. Marlowe accompanies Will to Viola's balcony, and a *Romeo-and-Juliet-like* balcony scene unfolds as Will discovers new-found inspiration. The nurse discovers Will before he escapes, but now the household is onto him—but by the name Marlowe.

Rehearsals begin the next day and Viola (as Kent) plays *Romeo*. As they continue, the story gradually changes from one about *Romeo* and a pirate's daughter to one with a love interest named *Juliet*.

Wessex visits Viola and informs her of their impending marriage and journey to Virginia. Though it breaks her heart, Viola sends word to Will that he must not visit her again because it is too dangerous. Will follows Kent from rehearsal and divulges his desperate love for Viola. He soon discovers Viola's disguise, and they come together in passion for each other.

Will tries to convince Viola to run away with him instead of marrying Wessex. She knows she can never do this, and that she must go with Wessex to receive the Queen's approval for their marriage. Once at court, the Queen examines Viola and privately tells Wessex she can tell Viola has another lover. In his anger, he assumes it is Marlowe and goes after him.

As things continue to fall apart, one of Will's rivals claims he has rights to the *Romeo and Juliet* manuscript and attempts to get it away from the cast during a rehearsal. Will's company manages to hold on to it, but as they celebrate, Viola/Kent

discovers Will has an estranged wife and two children. She runs out, leaving the group to mourn over the sudden news that Marlowe was just stabbed to death across town.

Drunk and stirred up, Wessex finds Viola distraught in her bedroom and breaks the news of "her" playwright's death. She faints, believing he means Will; but when Will enters looking for Viola, Wessex flees thinking him the ghost of Marlowe.

Similarly to the ending of *Romeo and Juliet*, Will sees Viola and pleads if she be dead, that he die too. Fortunately she awakes at his kiss and they work through their misunderstandings. However, more troubles await at the theatre. The Queen's chamberlain declares it closed for allowing a female to act on the stage. With so many disruptions, what happens now to Will's new play and where will the players go? How can Will and Viola be together now with her wedding approaching? What does Will's future hold?

Courtesy of bard.org/study-guides/synopsis-shakespeare-in-love



Shakespeare in Love

About the Play

Meet the Characters

Will Shakespeare: Poet and playwright

Kit Marlowe: Will's colleague, friend, and inspiration

Henslowe: Owner and manager of the Rose Theatre

Fennyman: Producer

Lambert and Frees: Fennyman's accomplices and henchmen

Ralph: An actor who plays Nurse and Petruchio

Nol: An actor who plays Benvolio and Samson

Robin: An actor who plays Lady Capulet

Adam: An actor who plays Gregory, Benvolio, and Servingman

John Webster: A street urchin who aspires to be an actor

Wabash: A stammering actor and Henslowe's tailor

Ned Alleyn: The lead actor of the Admiral's Men, plays Mercutio

Sam: An actor who plays Juliet

Peter: An actor who plays Tybalt

Burbage: The lead actor and owner of the Curtain Theatre

Mistress Quickly: Wardrobe mistress at Whitehall Palace

Edmund Tilney: The Lord Chamberlain

Queen Elizabeth I

Viola De Lesseps: A daughter who disguises herself as Thomas Kent to audition to be an actor

Nurse: Servant to Viola

Sir Robert De Lesseps: Viola's father

Lord Wessex: A nobleman betrothed to Viola

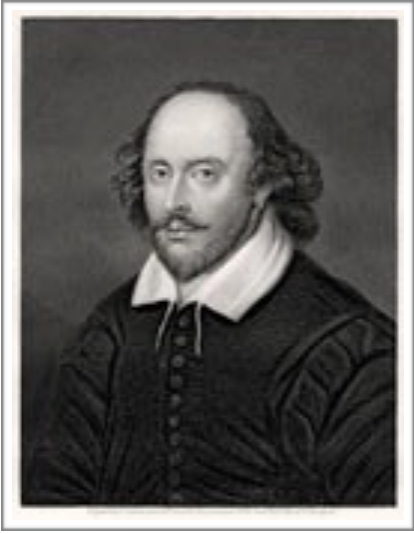
Catling: A guard at De Lesseps Hall



Shakespeare in Love

About the Play

Meet Shakespeare



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.



Shakespeare in Love

About the Play

Meet Shakespeare

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 in Love

About the Play Meet Shakespeare

Shakespeare's Plays

1589	<i>Comedy of Errors</i>	1601	<i>Troilus and Cressida</i>
1590	<i>Henry VI, Part II</i> <i>Henry VI, Part III</i>	1602	<i>All's Well That Ends Well</i>
1591	<i>Henry VI, Part I</i>	1604	<i>Othello</i> <i>Measure for Measure</i>
1592	<i>Richard III</i>	1605	<i>King Lear</i> <i>Macbeth</i>
1593	<i>Taming of the Shrew</i> <i>Titus Andronicus</i>	1606	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
1594	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> <i>Two Gentlemen of Verona</i> <i>Love's Labour's Lost</i>	1607	<i>Coriolanus</i> <i>Timon of Athens</i>
1595	<i>Richard II</i> <i>Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	1608	<i>Pericles</i>
1596	<i>King John</i> <i>Merchant of Venice</i>	1609	<i>Cymbeline</i>
1597	<i>Henry IV, Part I</i> <i>Henry IV, Part II</i>	1610	<i>Winter's Tale</i>
1598	<i>Henry V</i> <i>Much Ado about Nothing</i>	1611	<i>Tempest</i>
1599	<i>Twelfth Night</i> <i>As You Like It</i> <i>Julius Caesar</i>	1612	<i>Henry VIII</i>
1600	<i>Hamlet</i> <i>Merry Wives of Windsor</i>		



Shakespeare in Love

Historical Context

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 plays 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 in Love

Lesson Plan: Page to Stage

In this lesson, students will read an excerpt from *Romeo and Juliet* and *Shakespeare In Love*. Students will complete a handout where they will analyze how the stage production creates comedy through staging, timing, physicality and vocal delivery. Students will also compare/contrast reading and watching a scene from the play. For the summative assessment, students will write an essay comparing and contrasting reading an excerpt from *Shakespeare In Love* to watching it on stage, explaining which medium was more impactful. All handouts are below and on our *Study Guide Spotlight for Shakespeare In Love*.

Romeo and Juliet Act II, Scene 2, lines 58-84

JULIET

My ears have not yet drunk a hundred words
Of that tongue's utterance, yet I know the sound:
Art thou not Romeo and a Montague?

ROMEO

Neither, fair saint, if either thee dislike.

JULIET

How camest thou hither, tell me, and wherefore?
The orchard walls are high and hard to climb,
And the place death, considering who thou art,
If any of my kinsmen find thee here.

ROMEO

With love's light wings did I o'er-perch these walls;
For stony limits cannot hold love out,
And what love can do that dares love attempt;
Therefore thy kinsmen are no stop to me.

JULIET

If they do see thee, they will murder thee.

ROMEO

Alack, there lies more peril in thine eye
Than twenty of their swords: look thou but sweet,
And I am proof against their enmity.

JULIET

I would not for the world they saw thee here.

ROMEO

I have night's cloak to hide me from their sight;
And but thou love me, let them find me here:
My life were better ended by their hate,
Than death prorogued, wanting of thy love.

JULIET

By whose direction found'st thou out this place?

ROMEO

By love, who first did prompt me to inquire;
He lent me counsel and I lent him eyes.

I am no pilot; yet, wert thou as far

As that vast shore wash'd with the farthest sea,
I would adventure for such merchandise.

Shakespeare In Love, Scene 8, The Balcony Scene

Viola reads the letter.

Marlowe. Look, she has your letter.

Viola. Romeo, Romeo... a young gentleman of Verona. A Comedy.

By William Shakespeare.

Marlowe. Well, go on.

Will. My Lady.

Viola. Who is there?

Will. Will Shakespeare.

Nurse. *(off)* Madam!

Viola. Anon, good Nurse, anon. Master Shakespeare?

Will. The same, alas.

Viola. Why alas?

Will. A lowly player.

Viola. Alas indeed, for I thought you the highest poet of my esteem
and a writer of the most brilliant comedies that capture me heart.

Will. Oh, I am him too.

Nurse. *(off)* Lady Viola.

Viola. Anon. Anon. *(to Will.)* I will come again.

She goes in to deal with the Nurse.

Marlowe. Enough. The trap is laid, she takes the bait.

Will. Nonsense. I'm just getting somewhere.

Marlowe. 'A lowly player'?! Get out before the whole thing is ruined.

Viola returns.

Viola. If they find you here they will kill you.

Will. And you can bring them with a word.

Viola. Not for the world! Yours are the only words mine ears can
bear to hear. Speak to me. Inspire me.

Will. *(trying rather pathetically to be poetic)* Alas I cannot for I
am...struck dumb by your beauty.

Viola. Come, come. Good poet. These are hackneyed tropes.
Extemporise, improvise. Fill me with your words.

Marlowe. Leave.

Viola is waiting, expectantly.

Will *(to Viola)* Now?

Viola. Yes. Translate our base tongue into the golden verse of love.

Will. Em... *(under his breath.)* Pigs!

Viola. What was that?

Marlow. Recite something you know.

Will. I've gone blank.



Shakespeare in Love

Lesson Plan: Page to Stage

How do the actors and director create comedy in *Shakespeare In Love*, Scene 8, Balcony Scene?:

Comic Staging?

Comic Timing?

Comic Physicality?

Comic Vocal Delivery?

Shakespeare in Love

Lesson Plan: Page to Stage

Comparing reading a scene from *Shakespeare in Love* to watching a scene from *Shakespeare in Love*.

Similarities

Differences

Impact on the audience due to the difference between reading and watching:

Shakespeare in Love

Activities: 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

Instructions:

1. Print the next three pages of this Study Guide and cut them into cards, each with one word that Shakespeare coined.
2. Divide class into two teams, sitting on opposite sides of the room.
3. Decide which team will go first. Each team has one minute.
4. 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.
5. While the giver is prompting the teammates they may make as many guesses as they want with no penalties for wrong guesses.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. The playing team receives one point for correct guesses.
9. When you’ve gone through all of the cards, the team with the best score wins.

Rules:

Unlike traditional Taboo, the "giver" 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.



Shakespeare in Love

Activities: Shakespeare Taboo

AROUSE (v)

To stir or waken; 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

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)

One who passes judgement or expresses a reasoned opinion; reviewer

From the Greek verb *krinein*, "to judge or decide."

Love's Labors Lost

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

MOONBEAM (n)

Ray of reflected light from the moon

Shakespeare was the first to coin the compound word

A Midsummer Night's Dream

EMPLOYER (n)

One who makes use of or hires.

Shakespeare added the suffix *er-* From the Latin *implicare* ("to enfold or involve"). In some Shakespeare texts, the noun is spelled *imploier*.

Much Ado About Nothing

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

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

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) or an action

As You Like It

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

Shakespeare in Love

Activities: Shakespeare Taboo

<p>FORTUNE-TELLER (n)</p> <p>Seer or prophet; one who professes to see the future</p> <p>Shakespeare was the first to coin the compound word.</p> <p><i>The Comedy of Errors, The Merry Wives of Windsor</i></p>	<p>MIMIC (n)</p> <p>Performer skilled at imitating or aping</p> <p>From the Greek mimos for "mime or actor."</p> <p><i>A Midsummer Night's Dream of Errors, The Merry Wives of Windsor</i></p>	<p>DWINDLE (v)</p> <p>To decrease or shrink; to become less</p> <p>Probably based on Middle English <i>dwine</i>, meaning "to waste away".</p> <p><i>1 Henry IV, Macbeth</i></p>
<p>FRUGAL (adj)</p> <p>Sparing; thrifty or economical</p> <p>Based on the Latin <i>frugalis</i>, derived from <i>frux</i> for "fruit" or "value."</p> <p><i>The Merry Wives of Windsor, Much Ado About Nothing</i></p>	<p>ADDICTION (n)</p> <p>Leaning or inclination; devotion to a habit</p> <p>From the Latin <i>addicere</i>, meaning "to favor."</p> <p><i>Henry V, Othello</i></p>	<p>MANAGER (n)</p> <p>One who controls or directs; person in charge</p> <p>From the Latin <i>manus</i>, "hand."</p> <p><i>Love's Labor's Lost, A Midsummer Night's Dream</i></p>
<p>GENEROUS (adj)</p> <p>Of noble birth; kind; freely giving or liberal</p> <p>From the Latin genus ("birth" or "decent").</p> <p><i>Love's Labors Lost</i></p>	<p>LUGGAGE (n)</p> <p>Something lugged; baggage belonging to a traveler</p> <p>From the verb <i>lug</i>, from Middle English <i>luggen</i>, "to pull or drag by the hair or ear."</p> <p><i>1 Henry IV, The Tempest</i></p>	<p>PREMEDITATED (adj)</p> <p>Contemplated or thought about beforehand; planned</p> <p>From the Latin prefix <i>prae-</i>, "before," and the verb <i>meditari</i></p> <p><i>1 Henry VI, A Midsummer Night's Dream</i></p>
<p>LONELY (adj)</p> <p>Having no companionship; feeling cut off or desolate</p> <p>Coined from alone, from the Old English combination of <i>al</i> ("all") and <i>an</i> ("one").</p> <p><i>Coriolanus, The Winter's Tale</i></p>	<p>EYEBALL (n)</p> <p>Rounded capsule that forms the eye; organ for vision</p> <p><i>Eye</i> may be traced back to Old English and Germanic roots. Shakespeare was the first to use the compound word.</p> <p><i>A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Tempest</i></p>	<p>UNAWARE (adv)</p> <p>Unknowingly; suddenly; without warning</p> <p>From the Old English <i>waer</i>, "careful or wary."</p> <p><i>Venus and Adonis, 3 Henry VI</i></p>

Shakespeare in Love

Activities: Shakespeare Taboo

GLOOMY (adj)

Dark and dismal; depressing

Shakespeare coined the adjective from the earlier verb *gloom*, meaning “to look, feel or act sullen or despondent.”

1 Henry V

WORTHLESS (adj)

Having no value or merit; contemptible

Shakespeare added the suffix to the Old English root *weorth* (“worthy”)

3 Henry VI, The Two Gentlemen of Verona, Titus Andronicus, 1 Henry VI, 2 Henry VI

SHOOTING-STAR (n)

Meteor appearing like a streak of light

Shakespeare coined this compound word

Richard II

HURRY (v)

To rush or move quickly
Of unknown origin.

The Comedy of Errors, Venus and Adonis

SKIM-MILK (n)

Milk with its cream removed

Shakespeare coined this compound word

1 Henry IV, A Midsummer Night's Dream

VULNERABLE (adj)

Immune to harm or injury, having no weakness

From the Latin, *vulnerare*, “to wound or injure.”

Invulnerable: *King John, Hamlet, The Tempest*
Vulnerable: *Macbeth*

Shakespeare in Love

Activities: 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 it doesn't work."

After seeing the production, have each student write a review of Orlando Shakes' production of *Shakespeare in Love*. 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?

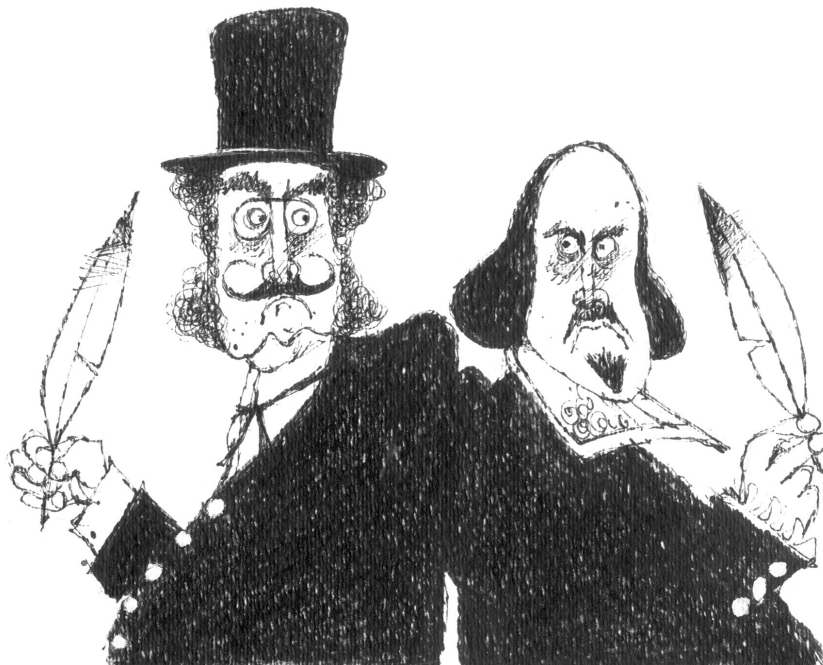
Conclusion – What will you remember about this performance?

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/how_2079002_become-theater-critic.html#ixzz1v9tEyMnc



Shakespeare in Love

Discussion & Themes

1. What is writer's block? What is a muse? In what ways are the presence of one and the absence of the other keeping Will from realizing his goals and desires at the beginning of the play?
2. How is Christopher Marlowe a help to Will? How is he a hindrance?
3. In what ways does Will and Viola's relationship reflect that of Romeo and Juliet? How is it different? How does Will take what happens in his life and transform those experiences into what occurs in *Romeo and Juliet*? What does he learn about the process of artistic creation?
4. What does marriage mean to Viola? To Shakespeare? To Viola's father and Lord Wessex? To Romeo and Juliet? How do these different feelings about marriage impact the story?
5. Questions courtesy of osfashland.org

Love

Love is part of Will's process. Will needs to feel the love before he can put it into words. How does love influence our work?

Social Class

Will and Viola are from different social classes causing friction in their relationship. Does our social status still impact our relationships?

The Artistic Process

This play reveals the life behind the playwright. How does life impact the artistic process?

Information courtesy of folger.edu, www.william-shakespeare.info, online-literature.com, playshakespeare.com, bard.org, enotes.com, famousshakespearequotes.net, penquin.com, bardweb.net, osfashland.org, shmoop.com, Coined by Shakespeare by Stanley Malles, Jeffrey McQuain, R. O. Blechman