<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cFci7BMAX88>

Shakespeare and his time

1. What have people been doing for more than 400 years?

They have been reading, listening and watching William Shakespeare’s poetry.

1. What surrounds the characters of Romeo and Juliet?

They are surrounded by violence and generational conflicts.

1. What is special about the language used by Shakespeare?

It is composed of imaginative word that became part of the English language

1. When and where was he born?

He was born in 1564 in the town of Stratford – upon – Avon

1. How old was he when he got married?

He was 18.

1. What other jobs did he have apart from being a playwright?

He worked as a theater producer, a part owner of an acting company and an actor.

1. What was the name of his company?

The King’s Men.

1. And the name of his theatre? When was it built?

His own theater was called The Globe.

1. How many people could it hold?

It could hold 3000 people.

1. Could only rich people attend a theatre?

No, people from every level of society could go.

1. Why was the theatre open-air?

It was open – air to let sunlight stream in and light the stage.

1. What consequences did this fact have?

Actors had to shout very loudly.

1. Who played the female roles? Why?

Young boys in female clothes did this because it was against the law for women to act.

1. Did the company only perform in London?

The company performed even in other places and in the countryside.

1. How many of Shakespeare’s plays do we have today?

Today we have only 38 plays out of 39.

1. How are they divided?

They are divided in comedies, histories and tragedies.

1. Which were the most common topics of comedies?

Most common topics were love stories and things people do in love.

1. What is the title of the comedy quoted here?

Much Ado About Nothing.

1. What’s the final scene of this play?

Love finally wins and there’s a marriage ceremony for the 4 lovers.

1. Who do historical plays deal with?

These deal with English rulers and British history.

1. What are typical topics of tragedies?

In tragedies he talks about conflicting families or someone avenging his lover’s death.

1. What does Hamlet struggle between?

He struggles between his moral beliefs and the desire to find avenge for his father’s death.

1. How many sonnets did Shakespeare write?

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1. What are the most common themes of Shakespeare’s sonnets?

Most of them are love ones and express everything from pain and death to desire, wisdom and happiness.