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William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was born to John and Mary Shakespeare on April 26th, 1564, in Stratford, England. He was the third child out of his eight siblings. Shakespeare’s family did quite well for themselves. When Shakespeare turned about five, he attended The King’s New School in Stratford. This school was boys only, and only taught grammar and Latin, a tool that later helped Shakespeare throughout his career. Shakespeare studied Renaissance religious texts, Roman poetry, and drama, until he turned fifteen. He dropped out of school thereafter. Once Shakespeare turned eighteen, he married Anne Hathaway, a farmer’s daughter,. They had three children together; Susanna, Hamnet and Judith. Shakespeare was originally an actor who eventually became a writer. Later on, in his life, he traveled to London to produce some of his plays, while his family stayed in Stanford. He spent much time traveling to and fro from these two cities, struggling between staying with family and producing his plays Around this time was when Shakespeare was getting more popular. ("Shakespeare's”)

He was a man who had an everlasting impact on world history. William Shakespeare influenced literature and art around the world with his books, plays, and poetry. He changed the way people thought. Many people used what Shakespeare wrote to emphasize or prove a certain point. Songwriters also used Shakespeare's works to express ideas.. Shakespeare also brought up many new

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words, shaping the English Language to what it is today. Lastly, William Shakespeare made many advancements to literature, setting standards for the English Language. For example, he came up with new forms of literature and different types of poems. None of this would have been possible without William Shakespeare.

One of William Shakespeare’s most famous works is *Romeo and Juliet.* This tale of romance is the base of many other authors’ stories, as it is considered to be the greatest love story of all time. Another story written by William Shakespeare was *Macbeth*. Other examples of Famous works of Shakespeare are [*Hamlet*](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/hamlet/index.html)*,* [*Julius Caesar*](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/julius_caesar/index.html)*,* [*King Lear*](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/lear/index.html)*,* [*Macbeth*](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/macbeth/index.html), and [*Othello*](http://shakespeare.mit.edu/othello/index.html). Whether people have read these stories or not, they have certainly heard these widespread titles. William Shakespeare has changed the way people wrote in his time, and even to this day writers use his style. Many authors copy the characters, or plot of the story and incorporate it into what they are writing. Other writers integrate Shakespeare into the story, or quote Shakespeare in their works, as he is well known for literature, to widen the audience. Many pop artists base their songs on some of William Shakespeare’s works. For instance, Taylor Swift's "Love Story," and Dire Straits' "Romeo and Juliet," were both based on Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Shakespeare was very unique and his works were very different from the works of other authors in his time. This made others want to copy his style of writing. People today still use shakespeare as a guide for writing, showing how Shakespeare influenced the way people wrote and thought. (“Shmoop”).

William Shakespeare also influenced the English language. Shakespeare introduced about 3,000 new words to the English language. Prior to Shakespeare, English spelling and grammar had very few standards. William Shakespeare’s works became so commonplace that they set standards for modern

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English. Shakespeare used a total of 29,066 unique words in his works, while most people today use about 7,500 to 10,000 unique words in their writings. His ability to form popular, new words and to maintain such an extensive vocabulary defined him positively as a “man of words”. Shakespeare stood the test of time, showing his proficiency of the English language. He shaped the English Language as he added more words, creating most of what is known as the English language today. William Shakespeare would not have influenced the English language dramastically if he had not demonstrated such mastery of words. (“Kurlak”).

William Shakespeare was original with his works. He came up with many different types of writing techniques and ideas. He certainly embraced the use of tragedy and comedy, in all of his writings, and was one of the first to do so. William Shakespeare was also one of the first to use and enrich the use of blank verse (non-rhyming verses) in poems. He came up with many new ideas to enhance the various types of literature and the arts. Shakespeare used props and costumes in his plays to enhance the scene, and capture the emotion of the story, which never been done before. For example, William Shakespeare used fake blood in one of his plays to make it seem realistic. This impacted history because he influenced knew styles that brought out literature and art that are still used today. (Alchinan).

William Shakespeare was a man who impacted world history, changing the way people thought, bringing about many new words (which have become official words in English), and he made many advancements to literature. Shakespeare is a man who affected what art and literature today, with his works in his time, more than a hundred years ago. He still lives on today, with his legacy.