

**Year 9
Homework**

Shakespeare



Name:

English Teacher:

Dear Pupil,

This half term you will be reading and exploring a Shakespeare play. This project is designed to support the work you are doing in class. The homework is designed to ensure the depth of knowledge required of a GCSE course; therefore, you must use your class play as the basis for this homework.

The English Department believes that it is important that your parents or guardians are involved in your studying too, they can assist you and it would be beneficial to work with them whenever you can when completing these tasks.

The tasks have been split up so that you should complete one each week over the half term. Each one comes with extension tasks so you can push yourself even further and really begin to explore your own perspective on the topic – the more you do the more you will learn and have to show for this project at the end.

We hope you find this project useful. Do use your class teacher as a resource to assist you if you have any questions or are not sure about any of the tasks.

Good luck!

The English Team

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have created a series of tasks which will allow your child to investigate a Shakespeare play to support the work they are doing in class. Many of these require them to work with you., We really hope you enjoy being a part of this investigation and we've included a comment box on each page so that you can comment on their progress; what you think of it and anything else you'd like to add.

Please help us to encourage your child to complete the booklet on a weekly basis to ensure it is done thoroughly, as this approach will also help them to understand the work being done on the same topic area in class.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns about the work in this booklet; we'll be happy to help out in any way we can.

The English Team

Week 1:

Getting to grips with the play

Learning Objective: To be able to discuss our initial impression of the play you are studying.

Everyone must

Discuss your impression of the play you are studying with your parents or guardian. How do you feel about the play you will be working on?

Research when the play you are studying was written. What else can you find out about the time the play was written?

Some will

Research a recent performance of the play you are studying, try to find out what setting was used, what time period they set it in and what kind of reviews the performance received.

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task

Week 2:
Themes

Learning Objective: To be able to explore the themes of the play you are studying.

Everyone must

Identify the main themes in the play you are studying. Discuss what you think Shakespeare wants the audience to feel about each one with a parent or guardian.

Identify 3 quotations that link to each of the themes you have identified and make notes about your response to each quotation.

Some will

Choose one theme that you are interested in and write a paragraph, using quotations to support your ideas, where you explore how Shakespeare makes the audience feel about the theme you have chosen.

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task

Week 3:

Plot

Learning Objective: To be able to explore the plot in detail.

Everyone must: Summarise the plot of the play you are studying in less than 100 words.

Mind map the key events in the play. For each event on the mind map add the characters that are involved, the themes that are linked to it and any quotations that you think are relevant.

Some will: Add any relevant information about the historical context, the time the play was written, to your mind map – try to think about how attitudes at the time Shakespeare was writing the play may have effected what he was writing, or what he wanted the audience to think or feel.

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task

Week 4:
Characters

Learning Objective: To analyse the key characters and link their actions to the historical context of the play.

Everyone must: Make a list of at two key characters. Write down as much as you can remember about each character in 30 seconds. How much did you know?

Identify 5 key quotations and make notes about the impression Shakespeare creates of each character. What techniques does he use to shape the audience's opinion?

Some will: Consider what each character tells us about the historical context of the play. Do they conform to what is expected of them? Do they rebel against it? Does their behaviour lead them to triumph or disaster? Do they represent an idea or value?

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task

Week 5:
Dramatic Techniques

Learning Objective: To be able to consider the impact of a range of dramatic techniques.

Everyone must: With a parent or guardian, discuss the dramatic techniques you have explored in class so far.

Consider how these dramatic techniques affect the audience. Do you think a modern audience would respond differently to an audience during Shakespeare's era? Why do you think that?

Some will: Look for examples of soliloquys and asides used in other plays or television shows that you have seen. How do these devices affect you?

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task

Week 6:
Assessment Preparation

Learning Objective: To be able to explain the demands of the Assessment and consider how prepared you feel for it.

Everyone must: Explain the Assessment task that you will be doing to someone who is not in your class.

Identify the areas you feel most and least confident about. Discuss what you can do to improve any areas of weakness.

Some will: Make sure you understand the historical context and that you have identified a range of places to make relevant comments that are linked to your analysis.

Pupil comment on task

Parent comment on task