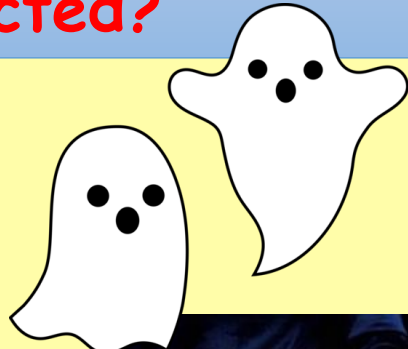


# L.O.: To understand Shakespearean attitudes to the supernatural.

## Entry Task

Wednesday, 18 March 2020

1. What do these pictures show?
2. How are they connected?



Decide if the following statements about a Shakespearean audience (people living in 1500 - 1600) are true or false.

**Write the number and a T or F.**

1. They believed witches really existed.
2. They did not believe in the supernatural.
3. They did not believe people could have evil spirits inside them.
4. They believed hell was a real place.

 **Supernatural** - things or people that aren't natural and can't be explained by science.

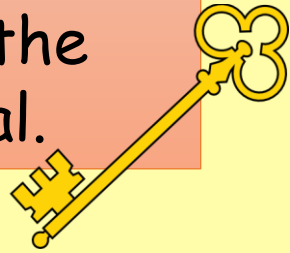
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Starter

**Personality quiz! How superstitious are you? Write down the number you agree with out of 10.**

1. Do you believe in a higher power e.g. God?
2. Do you believe in life after death e.g. heaven and hell?
3. Do you believe you'll have 7 years of bad luck if you break a mirror?
4. Do you believe in ghosts or that people can come back from the dead?
5. Do you believe a four leafed clover bring good luck?
6. Do you believe it is possible to predict the future?
7. Do you believe in spells and magic?
8. Do you believe in horoscopes?
9. Do you believe dreams can foretell the future?
10. Do you believe the number 13 is unlucky?

**Superstitious** = someone who believes in the supernatural.



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Starter

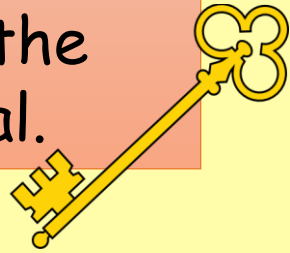
**Personality quiz! How superstitious are you? Write down the number you agree with out of 10.**

1 - 3: You are barely superstitious. You believe in science and reason. You are a practical person who needs to see something to believe it.

4 - 6: You are quite superstitious. You think that most things in the world can be explained by science or nature but you do shudder on Friday 13<sup>th</sup>!

7 - 10: You are highly superstitious. You are constantly looking for signs or reasons for good or bad luck. You've probably seen a ghost and had your fortune told!

**Superstitious** = someone who believes in the supernatural.





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New Learning

## Shakespearean attitudes to witches



- In Shakespeare's day people thought that the Devil represented itself in the form of witches.
- This led to a period of witch hunting where people were tried and often executed for being witches.
- King James I said that any one found to "use, practice, or exercise any sort of witchcraft, sorcery, charm or enchantment" would face the death penalty.



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New Learning

## Shakespearean attitudes to witches



- Watch the video and make notes on the attitudes about witches and reasons for them.
- How do they compare with our attitudes to witches now?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dtyDAo9BbL4>



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Independent

Answer the questions in full sentences in your books

Grade 1: What sort of beliefs did people have in Shakespearean times?

Grade 2: Why did people believe in the supernatural?

Grade 3: How were Shakespearean attitudes different to modern attitudes to the supernatural?

Key words to use in your answer:

1. Witchcraft / witch hunts.
2. Knowledge / reasons / explain / bad luck.
3. Understanding / technology / changed.

**Challenge!** What is your personal belief in the supernatural? Do you believe in ghosts or horoscopes or heaven and hell? Explain why or why not.

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Independent

**Mark your work using the examples below:**

Grade 1: What sort of beliefs did people have in Shakespearean times?

In Shakespearean times, the majority of the population believed in witchcraft and the supernatural. Even the King promoted this belief - he encouraged witch hunts in the country that resulted in many executions.

Grade 2: Why did people believe in the supernatural?

People may have believed in the supernatural because they did not have any other explanations for events. For example, disease or strange weather. They did not have the knowledge to explain this 'bad luck' with real reasons.

Grade 3: How were Shakespearean attitudes different to modern attitudes to the supernatural?

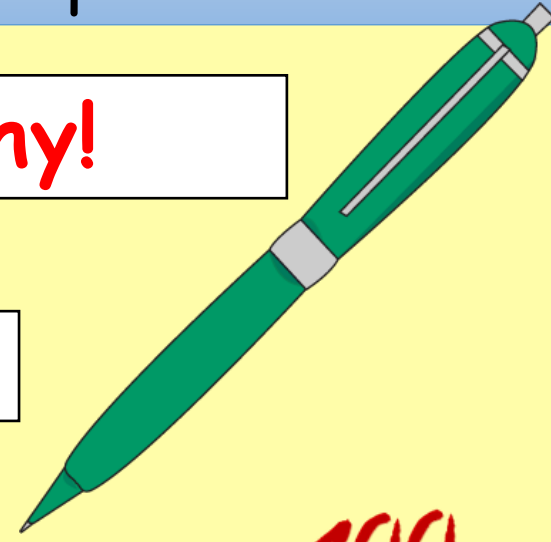
Shakespearean attitudes to the supernatural were very different to modern attitudes. Nowadays, fewer people believe in witches because we have technology that has changed our understanding.




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Plenary

Give yourself a grade and explain why!

I am a grade \_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.



CORE - grade 1 	KILLER - grade 2 	DEADLY - grade 3 
Can make a <b>basic comment</b> on Shakespearean attitudes to the supernatural.	Can <b>explain</b> Shakespearean attitudes to the supernatural.	Can <b>explore</b> Shakespearean and <b>modern</b> attitudes to the supernatural.