



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING

Grade 8: Module 2B: Unit 1: Lesson 1

Supporting Materials



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.
Exempt third-party content is indicated by the footer: © (name of copyright holder). Used by permission and not subject to Creative Commons license.



Gallery Walk Image Sources
(For Teacher Reference)

Title to display under image	Image source
Children performing AMND	http://www.shakespeareinamericanlife.org/images/midsummer_l.jpg Photo by Lloyd Wolf. Used with permission.
Shakespeare for the elderly	http://assets.nydailynews.com/polopoly_fs/1.160862!/img/httpImage/image.jpg_gen/derivatives/landscape_635/alg-peoples-theater-jpg.jpg Enid Alvarez/News Used with permission
William Shakespeare	http://i.telegraph.co.uk/multimedia/archive/02488/shakespeare_punjab_2488351b.jpg Public domain.
World Shakespeare Festival in Pictures	http://www.nosweatshakespeare.com/shakespeare-festival-in-pictures
Pacific Northwest Ballet	http://www.flickr.com/photos/pacificnorthwestballet/8611337488/ Photo by Pacific Northwest Ballet http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/2.0/
Archangel	http://www.flickr.com/photos/iagoarchangel/3872234340/ Photo by Jimmy Thomas http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0/
Shakespeare Carolina	http://www.flickr.com/photos/rtencati/7770076416/ photo by Ron Tencati http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nd/2.0/
Midsummer Puck Flying	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:MidsummerPuckFlying.jpg Pacific Repertory Theatre http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/deed.en



Notice/Wonder Note-catcher

Name:

Date:

Notice	Wonder



The Lure of Shakespeare

by Robert Butler

From Past to Present

Many people consider Shakespeare the greatest writer in the English language. His legions of admirers point with awe to the rhythm of his words and the wide range of human emotions he portrays and evokes. But has Shakespeare always been so popular? And how did an Elizabethan actor-turned-playwright become a world-famous figure?

From the start, Shakespeare was popular among the English. Shortly after his death, his plays were published in a collection known as the First Folio (1623), with a poem by Ben Jonson included that featured the lines, "He was not of an age, but for all time!" The memory of Shakespeare remained strong among audiences as well, since his plays were produced regularly by many companies.

But in 1642, during the English Civil War, the theaters of London were closed by order of the Government and remained so for 18 years. By the time they reopened in 1660, styles had changed. The court of the new king wanted a more elegant, refined, classical world, and Shakespeare struck them as coarse in his language and careless in his plots. His comedies, in particular, fell out of favor as the years passed.

By the 1700s, however, a turnaround had begun. The first new edition of his plays in nearly a century, along with the first biography ever written, appeared in 1709 and immediately sparked a Shakespeare revival. Despite continuing questions about his style, which led many producers to cut or alter his plays (sometimes even writing new endings for them), audiences were enthusiastic. Great performances also helped. David Garrick, the greatest actor of the century, and Sarah Siddons, the greatest actress, were both enthusiastic

Shakespeare supporters and starred in many of his plays at the Drury Lane Theatre.

In the 1800s, Shakespeare's popularity soared. Multivolume editions of his plays were published, exuberant productions and extravagant sets supported stars such as Fanny Kemble and Edmund Kean, and touring companies brought small-scale versions of Shakespeare to towns and villages everywhere.

In the 20th century, Shakespeare remained as popular as ever, with actors such as Sir Laurence Olivier, Sir John Gielgud, and Kenneth Branagh bringing his characters to life. Students around the world now read Shakespeare in literature classes, and his plays are sometimes staged in modern-day costume to emphasize his significance to today's world.



The Lure of Shakespeare

by Robert Butler

More remarkable is the story of Shakespeare's popularity in other lands.

News of Shakespeare's talent spread even during his lifetime. Occasionally, a foreign merchant or diplomat saw a Shakespearean production. In 1601, the Russian ambassador was present when *Twelfth Night* was first performed. Traveling companies of English actors staged some of Shakespeare's plays in Germany and Poland while the playwright was still alive. But it was the great French author Voltaire who truly popularized Shakespeare beyond English shores in the 1730s. From that time onward, Shakespeare's works have been extensively studied and performed around the world.

In America, copies of the plays are believed to have circulated in the late 1600s, and the first performance was *Romeo and Juliet* in the early 1700s. A century later, Americans practically worshiped Shakespeare. Philosopher and poet Ralph Waldo Emerson called him "the first poet of the world." In the 1900s, Shakespeare's works were being translated and printed in India, Africa, China, and Japan.

In the 20th century, a new medium inspired countless variations on the Shakespeare canon: the movies. Some have been filmed as recreated plays, such as *Romeo and Juliet* (1968) or *Henry V* (1989). Others were adapted stories in modern settings such as *West Side Story* (1961) or *Richard III* (1995). Still others were transposed into stories in a completely different land and culture such as *Ran* (1985), a Japanese tale of samurai based mostly on *King Lear*.

Whether recorded or live, the performance of a major Shakespeare role is traditionally seen as the ultimate test of an actor's ability. From Richard Burbage in the 1500s to Ian McKellen and Judi Dench today, the greatest actors are those who are able to master Shakespeare. By itself, this is the most enduring tribute to the theatrical talent of William Shakespeare, the Bard of Avon.

From Calliope issue: William Shakespeare, Master Playwright, © 2005 Carus Publishing Company, published by Cobblestone Publishing, 30 Grove Street, Suite C, Peterborough, NH 03458. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission of the publisher. www.cobblestonepub.com



Advantages/Disadvantages T-Chart

Name: _____

Date: _____

Shakespeare Images

What did you learn about the universal appeal of Shakespeare from looking at the images?

What are the advantages of using images in learning about this topic? How is it positive or helpful?

What are the disadvantages of using images in learning about this topic? How is it negative or unhelpful?



Advantages/Disadvantages T-Chart

“The Lure of Shakespeare	
What did you learn about the universal appeal of Shakespeare from reading the text?	
What are the advantages of reading text to learn about this topic? How is it positive or helpful?	What are the disadvantages of reading text to learn about this topic? How is it negative or unhelpful?