

William Shakespeare Trivia: Questions, Answers, and Facts Printable Trivia Pack

William Shakespeare trivia explores the life, works, and legacy of the Elizabethan and Jacobean playwright widely regarded as one of the most influential authors in history. From famous tragedies and comedies to enduring quotes and theatrical lore, this page offers a lively mix of easy, funny, family-friendly, and challenging questions for readers of all levels.

HARD WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE TRIVIA

1. By what year do records place Shakespeare in London?

Answer: 1592

2. Who called Shakespeare an 'upstart crow' in 1592?

Answer: Robert Greene

3. In what year did the Globe Theatre first open?

Answer: 1599

4. The Globe burned during a performance of which play, and in what year did that happen?

Answer: Henry VIII in 1613

5. One year after the fire, what year saw the Globe rebuilt?

Answer: 1614

6. When did Shakespeare purchase New Place?

Answer: 1597

7. Which district gave its name to the gatehouse property Shakespeare bought in 1613?

Answer: Blackfriars

8. In what month and year was Shakespeare's will signed?

Answer: March 1616

9. What exact date is commonly given for Shakespeare's death?

Answer: 23 April 1616

10. Who became the King's Men's principal playwright after Shakespeare?

Answer: John Fletcher

11. Which play was co-written by Shakespeare and John Fletcher about noble cousins?

Answer: The Two Noble Kinsmen

12. Name the royal-history play Shakespeare collaborated on with John Fletcher.?

Answer: Henry VIII

13. What year first saw Venus and Adonis in print?

Answer: 1593

14. The Rape of Lucrece first appeared in print in which year?

Answer: 1594

FUNNY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE TRIVIA

1. Shakespeare's will famously left Anne Hathaway which bed?

Answer: Second-best bed

2. Which character ends up wearing a donkey's head in A Midsummer Night's Dream?

Answer: Bottom

3. Who is the wonderfully muddled comic constable in Much Ado About Nothing?

Answer: Dogberry

4. Which larger-than-life comic figure appears in Henry IV, Part 1?

Answer: Falstaff

5. Falstaff pops up again in which merry Shakespeare play?

Answer: The Merry Wives of Windsor

6. In Hamlet, which comic workers chat in the graveyard scene?

Answer: Gravediggers

7. Who provides the comic-relief scene in Macbeth right after Duncan's murder?

Answer: The porter

8. What jealousy-flavored insult did Shakespeare coin in Othello?

Answer: Green-eyed monster

9. The line 'Some are born great, some achieve greatness' belongs to which play?

Answer: Twelfth Night

10. What mini-play do the mechanicals put on in A Midsummer Night's Dream?

Answer: Pyramus and Thisbe

11. Which court fool adds wit to As You Like It?

Answer: Touchstone

12. Who serves as the licensed fool in Twelfth Night?

Answer: Feste

13. Name the clownish servant in The Merchant of Venice.?

Answer: Launcelot Gobbo

FUN WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE TRIVIA

1. Which narrative poem by Shakespeare shares a title with a goddess and a handsome youth?

Answer: Venus and Adonis

2. To whom did Shakespeare dedicate Venus and Adonis?

Answer: Henry Wriothesley

3. What is the title of Shakespeare's other major narrative poem besides Venus and Adonis?

Answer: The Rape of Lucrece

4. Which indoor theatre did Shakespeare's company later use?

Answer: Blackfriars Theatre

5. Who was a leading actor in Shakespeare's company?

Answer: Richard Burbage

6. Which First Folio co-publisher was named John?

Answer: John Heminge

7. Which colleague helped publish the First Folio alongside Heminge?

Answer: Henry Condell

8. The First Folio came out in what year?

Answer: 1623

9. How many plays were preserved in the First Folio?

Answer: 36

10. Who praised Shakespeare in Palladis Tamia in 1598?

Answer: Francis Meres

11. Whose tribute appears in the First Folio and is especially famous?

Answer: Ben Jonson

12. Who organized the big Shakespeare Jubilee in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1769?

Answer: David Garrick

13. Who published the first substantial biography of Shakespeare in 1709?

Answer: Nicholas Rowe

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE FAMILY TRIVIA

1. On what date was William Shakespeare baptized?

Answer: 26 April 1564

2. In which year did Shakespeare die?

Answer: 1616

3. What year did Shakespeare marry Anne Hathaway?

Answer: 1582

4. Anne Hathaway came from which village near Stratford-upon-Avon?

Answer: Shottery

5. Who was Shakespeare's elder daughter?

Answer: Susanna Hall

6. What was the name of Shakespeare's younger daughter?

Answer: Judith Shakespeare

7. Who was Shakespeare's only son?

Answer: Hamnet Shakespeare

8. Which man married Shakespeare's daughter Susanna?

Answer: John Hall

9. What was John Hall's profession?

Answer: Physician

10. Who married Shakespeare's daughter Judith?

Answer: Thomas Quiney

11. What trade did Shakespeare's father John practice?

Answer: Glover

12. Mary Arden belonged to which Warwickshire family?

Answer: Arden family

EASY WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE TRIVIA

1. In what town was William Shakespeare born?

Answer: Stratford-upon-Avon

2. Which English county contains Stratford-upon-Avon?

Answer: Warwickshire

3. Name the Shakespeare tragedy centered on Prince Hamlet.?

Answer: Hamlet

4. Which famous Shakespeare play tells the story of Romeo and Juliet?

Answer: Romeo and Juliet

5. What is the title of Shakespeare's Scottish tragedy about Macbeth?

Answer: Macbeth

6. Which Shakespeare tragedy features the Moor Othello?

Answer: Othello

7. Which Shakespeare play follows the aging king Lear?

Answer: King Lear

8. What Roman tragedy by Shakespeare focuses on Caesar's assassination?

Answer: Julius Caesar

9. Who was William Shakespeare's wife?

Answer: Anne Hathaway

10. What was the name of Shakespeare's mother?

Answer: Mary Arden

11. Who was Shakespeare's father?

Answer: John Shakespeare

12. Before 1603, what was Shakespeare's acting company called?

Answer: Lord Chamberlain's Men

13. What new name did Shakespeare's company take in 1603?

Answer: King's Men

Source: <https://triviagong.com/themes/william-shakespeare>