

Shakespeare and the Renaissance

Shakespeare's Biography
And
Renaissance Period

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Renaissance...a time of rebirth and renewal

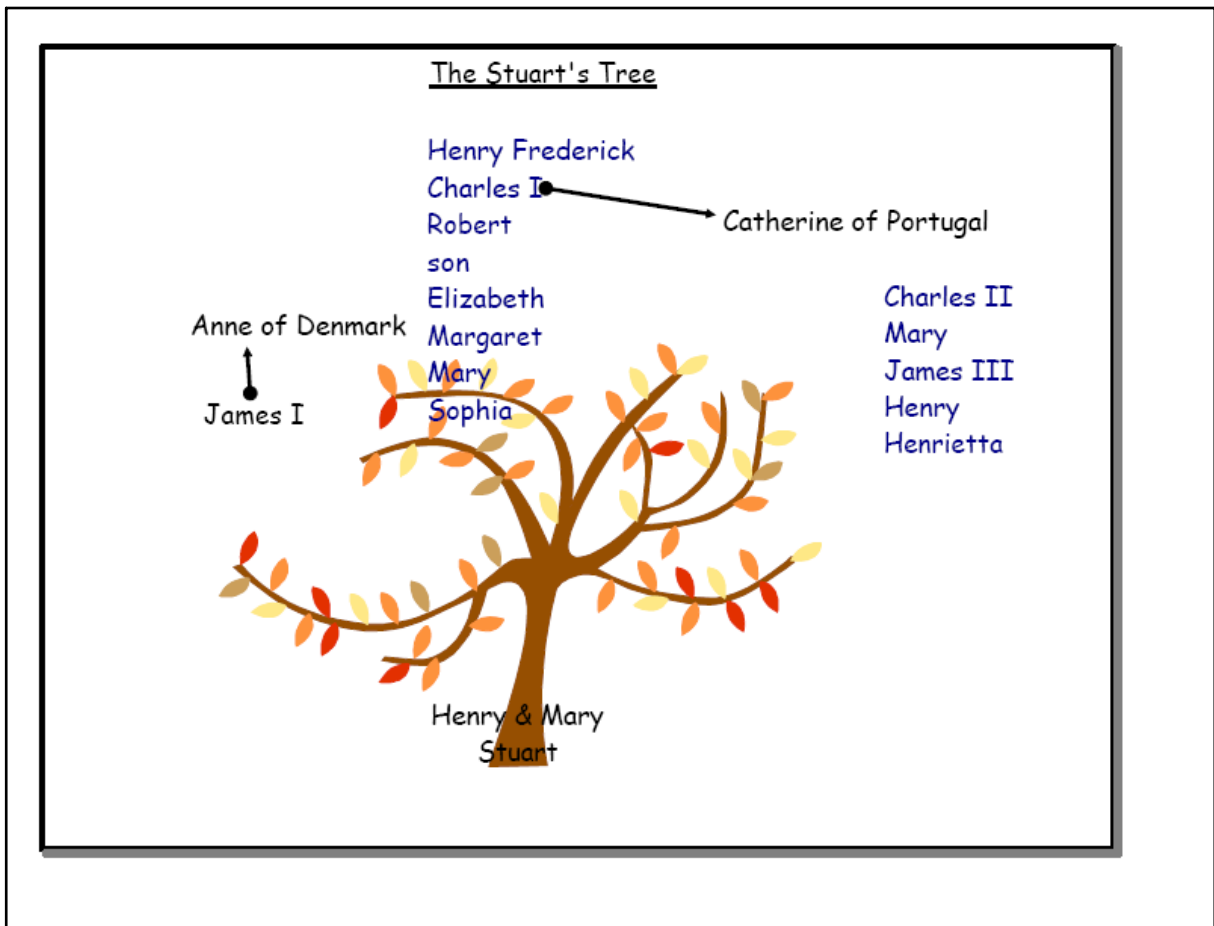
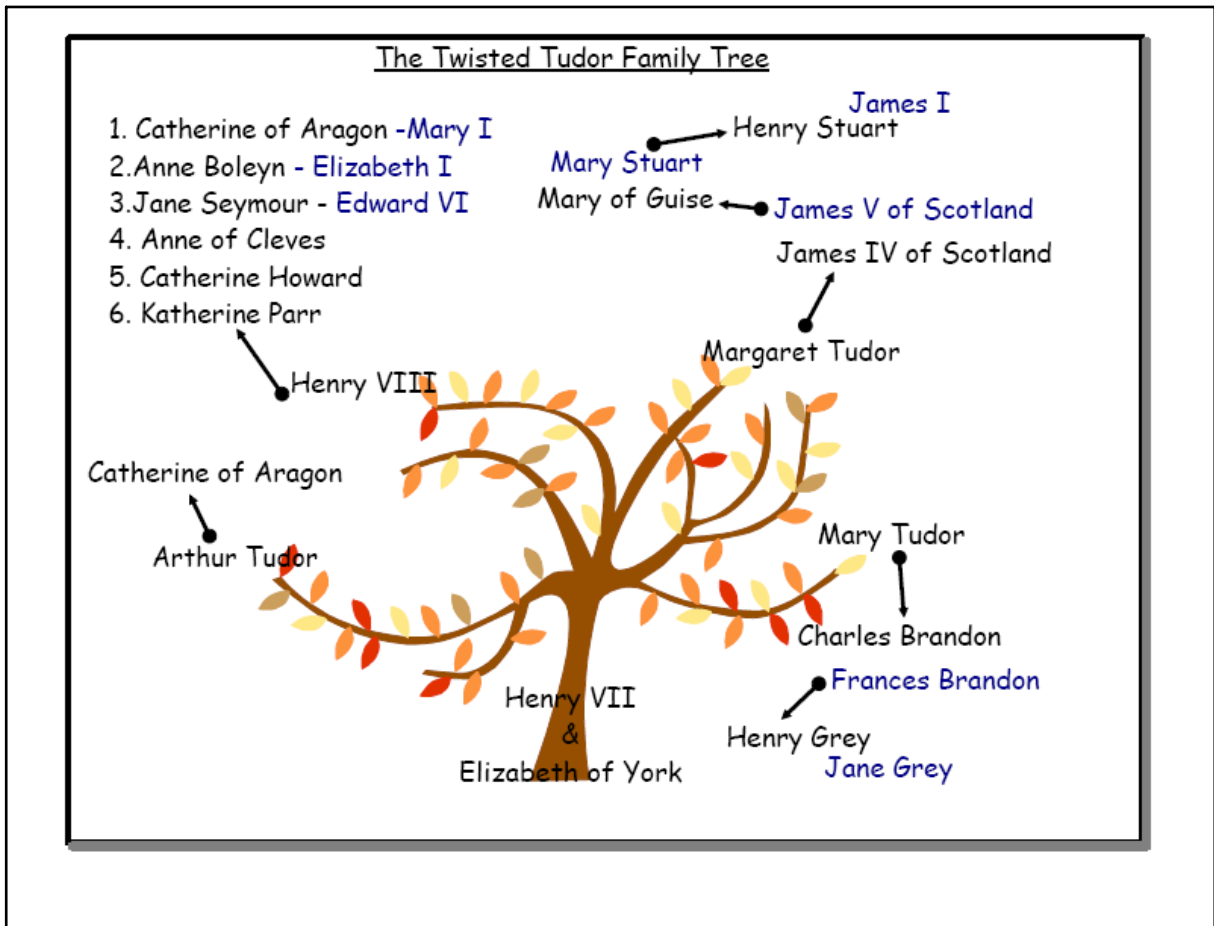
Growth

Disease

Arts & Entertainment

Architecture

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Who was Shakespeare?

- Born 1564, in Stratford-upon-Avon, 100 miles northwest of London to John Shakespeare and Mary Arden
- Married Anne Hathaway Nov. 28, 1582
- Children: Susanna and twins, Judith and Hamnet
- Died April 23, 1616

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Shakespearian Language

- He wrote in iambic pentameter.
- He is accredited for 3,000 words in the Oxford English Dictionary.
- Shakespeare's English is the only previous form of English that we speak today.

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Iambic Pentameter

- An iamb is a metrical foot of rhythm
- A foot is one stressed and one unstressed syllable (da DUM)
- Pentameter = 5 feet
- da-Dum da-DUM da-DUM da-DUM da-DUM
- i WENT to THE store TO buy SOME wheat BREAD.

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Longest Shakespearian Word

Honorificabilitudinitatibus

From *Love's Lost Labours*

"Without honor"

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GLOBE THEATER

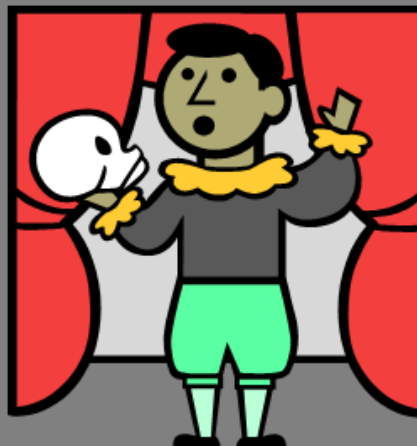


- Built in 1599
- Timber from The Theater (Shakespeare's previous theater) used in the building of the Globe
- Shakespeare's partners: Richard & Cuthbert Burbage

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The Lord Chamberlain's Men

- Established in 1594
- Became the King's Men in 1603 to honor James I



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Theater Terminology

- Aside
- Monologue
- Soliloquy
- Scene
- Act
- Dialogue
- Dramatic Irony
- Theme
- Blank Verse
- Drama

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Shakespeare's Writings



- Plays: Comedies, Tragedies, and Histories
- Sonnets

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Tragedy



- The tragic hero (protagonist) finds an unhappy ending
- Tragic hero has a tragic flaw, which is usually a timeless value
- Series of related events leads to a catastrophe
- Tragic hero usually recognizes the tragic flaw by the end.

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Comedies



- The first of Shakespeare's works
- There is a happy ending
- A fool provides comic relief
- Puns, metaphors, and insults are used to provoke laughter
- Disguises and mistaken identity are common
- Themes of love and friendship
- Frequently introduces foil characters

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Wise Fool vs. Foolish Fool

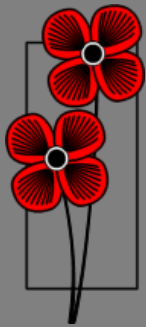
Wise Fool

- Great intelligence displayed through verbal wit
- A guide through the play.
- Habitually hide meaning in metaphor.
- Unwavering loyalty to the King/tragic hero

Foolish Fool

- Make the reader laugh, but without wit.
- Contrasts the “dark” character(s).
- Looked down upon by aristocracy in the plays.
- Ridiculous actions and words.

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Shakespeare's Garden

- Research and find flowers and herbs mentioned in Shakespeare's plays.
- Bring in the flower or herb found and a direct reference to the play in which it is found.
- Cannot be from *Romeo and Juliet*
- Cannot be rosemary - be original

Example:

Juliet:

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose
By any other name would smell just as sweet"

Romeo and Juliet (II, ii, 1-2)



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