

Name: _____
 Date: _____

Subject: English 101
 Theme: Famous people

William Shakespeare



lived 26 April 1564 – died 23 April 1616

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire. He was baptised in the church of St Mary's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, on 26 April 1564.

In his early school years he studied Latin, English, French and Italian. At the age of 18 he married a woman called Anne Hathaway, the daughter of a farmer. A year after they were married they had a daughter together and then had two sons in 1585. Very little is known about Shakespeare's activities from 1585–1592. During this period he went to London where he began a successful career as a playwright and actor. In his 28th year he wrote his plays, his sonnets and many poems. Today, he is still popular with many audiences of all generations.

Shakespeare's most famous plays include *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Shakespeare retired to Stratford in the years before his death. He died on 23 April 1616 and was buried in the Holy Trinity Church two days after his death.

The English writer Sir Christopher Marlowe is another famous

Old spelling

- *Cressid instead of Desdemona (Othello)
- *To play the diu instead of music
- *Somer for summer (A Midsummer Night's Dream)
- *And I will be for all manner my friends

Modern spelling

- *Cressid instead of Desdemona (Othello)
- *To play the diu instead of music
- *Somer for the moon that quene (A Midsummer Night's Dream)
- *And I will be for all manner my friends