

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 to 1592. During this period he went to London where he began a successful career as a playwright and actor. In his 20s and 30s he wrote his plays, his sonnets and many poems. Today he is still popular and his plays are still performed.

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 church of St Mary's Church, Stratford-upon-Avon.

The play *Twelfth Night* is one of Shakespeare's comedies. It is written in verse.

### Old spelling

Capitall for shew-inge of letters  
 To sig- the shew- enclosed here  
 Rememb- for the man that quene these names  
 And com- for the whome my sonnet

### Modern spelling

\*Capitall for shew-inge of letters  
 To sig- the shew- enclosed here  
 Rememb- for the man that quene these names  
 And com- for the whome my sonnet