

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE TRIVIA QUIZ



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1> Which of these authors wrote a pamphlet maligning Shakespeare?

- a. Marlowe
- b. Greene
- c. Swift
- d. Dickens

2> Where was Shakespeare born?

- a. Stratford
- b. York
- c. Eaton
- d. London

3> Which Shakespearean character says the line, "My words fly up, my thoughts remain below"?

- a. Romeo
- b. Othello
- c. Brutus
- d. Claudius

4> Iago is the villain in which Shakespearean play?

- a. Othello
- b. Hamlet
- c. Taming of the Shrew

d. All's Well that Ends Well

5> Which of Shakespeare's characters is often referred to as the Moor?

- a. Caius
- b. Jachimo
- c. The Earl of Kent
- d. Othello

6> What was the name of Shakespeare's wife?

- a. Elizabeth
- b. Kate
- c. Mary
- d. Anne

7> What did Shakespeare leave to his wife in his will?

- a. A feathered quill
- b. A letter from the queen
- c. An unfinished manuscript
- d. The second best bed

8> What did Shakespeare's father do?

- a. A minister
- b. A butcher
- c. A glover
- d. A teacher

9> The line, "To be, or not to be" is from which Shakespearean play?

- a. Much Ado About nothing
- b. Titus

- c. Hamlet
- d. Macbeth

10> Which of these titles applies to Shakespeare?

- a. The Bard of Eaton
- b. The Bard of Hampton Court
- c. The Bard of Avon
- d. The Bard of Stratford

11> Approximately how many plays did William Shakespeare write?

- a. 21
- b. 104
- c. 76
- d. 38

12> How old was Shakespeare when he died?

- a. 83
- b. 67
- c. 33
- d. 52

13> The line "Nothing will come of nothing," is from which Shakespearean play?

- a. Timon of Athens
- b. King Lear
- c. Measure for Measure
- d. Hamlet

14> During which play will you hear the line "Now is the winter of our discontent"?

- a. Romeo and Juliette

- b. As You Like It
- c. Merchant of Venice
- d. Richard III

15> How many siblings did Shakespeare have?

- a. 4
- b. 7
- c. 11
- d. 2

16> "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and some have greatness thrust upon them" is a line from which Shakespearean play?

- a. Twelfth Night
- b. Merry Wives of Windsor
- c. Two Gentlemen From Verona
- d. Henry V

17> Which of these Shakespearean plays is a comedy?

- a. Pericles
- b. King Lear
- c. Cymbeline
- d. Winter's Tale

18> "Cowards die many times before their deaths. The valiant never taste of death but once" is a line from which Shakespearean play?

- a. Titus
- b. Much Ado About Nothing
- c. Anthony and Cleopatra
- d. Julius Caesar

19> How many children did Shakespeare have?

- a. 7
- b. 0
- c. 3
- d. 5

20> "A man can die but once" is a line from which of Shakespeare's plays?

- a. Henry II
- b. King Lear
- c. Henry V
- d. Henry IV part 2

21> What day was Shakespeare born?

- a. The 26th of April
- b. Unknown
- c. The 30th of April
- d. The 14 of April

Answers:

- 1> Greene - Robert Greene wrote 'Greene's Groats-Worth of Wit', which was an attack on the Bard.
- 2> Stratford - Shakespeare's baptism is documented in the Holy Trinity Parish Church in Stratford.
- 3> Claudius - Claudius is from Hamlet.
- 4> Othello - Iago plots to destroy Othello.
- 5> Othello - The play's original title was The Tragedy Othello - The Moor of Venice.
- 6> Anne - William married Anne Hathaway in 1582.
- 7> The second best bed - Scholars have argued over this request for centuries. It is unclear if it was a sign of affection or ill will.
- 8> A glover - John Shakespeare was an alderman and a glover.
- 9> Hamlet - This line is uttered by Hamlet.
- 10> The Bard of Avon - William is regarded as being the national poet of England.
- 11> 38 - He also wrote about 154 sonnets.
- 12> 52 - Shakespeare died on the 23rd of April 1616.
- 13> King Lear - King Lear is one of Shakespeare's tragedies.
- 14> Richard III - This line is uttered by Richard III.
- 15> 7 - John and Mary had eight children. Many of the children did not live to adulthood.
- 16> Twelfth Night - The play is one of Shakespeare's comedies.
- 17> Winter's Tale - The Winter's Tale was published after Shakespeare's death.
- 18> Julius Caesar - This line is uttered by Julius Caesar.
- 19> 3 - Shakespeare had three children, Susannah and twins Hamnet and Judith.
- 20> Henry IV part 2 - This play is one of the histories. This line is uttered by Francis Feeble.
- 21> Unknown - The actual date is unknown, however, by law a parent had to have their child baptized the first Sunday after their birth.

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