

## Shakespeare Biography Questions

1. How many hundreds of years ago were the first Shakespeare plays produced? (ix)
2. What were the dominant forms of drama in the Middle Ages? (ix)
3. What was the most important factor which helped encourage the development of troops of professional actors? (ix)
4. In what year was he born? (ix)
5. Where was Shakespeare born? (x)
6. Who was Queen when Shakespeare was born? (ix)
7. When were professional acting companies officially sanctioned in London? (ix)
8. What can you say about Christopher Marlowe? (ix)
9. Why were acting companies under attack? (x)
10. In 1574, what did the Mayor of London and his council decree about when and where performances could take place? (x)
11. What year did the Puritans succeed in closing the theaters? (x)
12. How well educated was Shakespeare? (x)
13. What was one technique Shakespeare teachers used to test the students' learning of the material? (x)
14. How many kids did he have? (x)
15. What happened when an outbreak of bubonic plague spread through London? (x)
16. What is the name of the company Shakespeare joined and what were his roles in the company? (x)
17. What was the name of the theater where most of Shakespeare's plays were presented? (xi)
18. How many did Shakespeare write of sonnets? (xi) plays? (xi)
19. Did the stage have a curtain? (xi)
20. Were the public theaters enclosed or in open air? (xi)
21. How large was the typical audience at the Globe? (xi)
22. What was a groundling? (xi)
23. What time of the day were Shakespeare's plays performed and why? (xi)
24. Did Shakespeare's plays have an intermission? (xi)
25. What did private theaters have? (xii)
26. Why were all female roles played by boys? (xii)
27. How many plays did Shakespeare write per year? (xii)
28. Did Shakespeare write his plays for performance or for publication? (xiii)