

Year 6 Transition pack

Subject: English



In Year 7 you will hone your skills in reading, writing, speaking and listening. You will be given the opportunity to read and analyse more complex English literary texts such as novels and poems. You will develop your skills for analysing films and other text types such as plays, poetry, and non-fiction writing.

Transition activities

Shakespeare activities:

1. Quiz

- Q1) From which social background do you think Shakespeare came from?
a) Merchants b) Farmers c) Aristocracy d) Musicians
- Q2) What was Shakespeare's job? (several answers are possible)
a) Accountant b) Playwright c) Actor d) Poet e) Cattle Merchant
- Q3) What was interesting about Shakespeare's death?
a) He was murdered
b) He died very close to or perhaps on his 52nd birthday
c) He did not die at all
d) He died in a traffic accident
- Q4) Which of these plays did Shakespeare NOT write?
a) Hamlet b) The Taming of the Shrew c) Richard III d) The Importance of Being Earnest

2. Mysterious William: get creative!

There are several different mysteries surrounding William Shakespeare because not a lot of records survive from his lifetime. What do you think happened?

- The entry about Shakespeare's death in the church record does not tell us why Shakespeare died – he was only 52 years old. **What do you think he died of?**
- Shakespeare went missing, at least from the perspective of a Shakespeare scholar; he disappears from all historical records for six years; in the time between starting a family in Stratford and his early career as a man of the theatre in London. Nobody knows what he did during the years in between. **What do you think he was up to?**
- Can you create a missing poster for him, with all his details and include a picture of what you think he would look like?

3. Become a Tudor journalist:

Can you write a newspaper article with all the information you have now gathered about Shakespeare?

Although newspapers were not invented in Shakespeare's time, can you put yourself in the shoes of a Tudor journalist? Report on the information you have and create a story based on the facts and witness reports - who last saw him, where was he? What was he doing at the time, what is he doing now? Where is he now? Has he started to write more plays? What would the newspaper be called? The Tudor Times? Shakespeare Daily? Tudor Daily Record? Tudor and Argus? Be as creative as you can!

Creative Writing:

**What would you do if you found a million pounds?
Would you keep it? Is it right to keep it?**

Plan your story:

Imagine you come home from school one day to find a suitcase full of money on your doorstep.
How would you feel? What might you be worried about? What would you do?
Who would you tell? What would you buy?
Would you run away?

Write a story with the title 'A Suitcase Full of Money'.

Success criteria:

- An opening which describes your feelings in detail
- Include three of the challenges opposite using your own ideas
- Varied sentence starters
- Varied sentence structures
- Technical accuracy



Reading lists

Boy 87 – Ele Fountain

Access to over 7,000 books in a variety of different genres:

<https://readon.myon.co.uk/library/browse.html>

Poetry – Young Poets Network:

<https://ypn.poetrysociety.org.uk/features/different-voices-in-poetry/>

Poetry Foundation: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/>

Willy Russell's biography: <https://literature.britishcouncil.org/writer/willy-russell#:~:text=Willy%20Russell%20was%20born%20in,sketches%20for%20local%20radio%20programmes.>

Useful websites

BBC bitesize daily lessons for KS3 and KS2 for English:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/tags/zf9yy9q/year-7-and-s1-lessons>

Topics in Y7 English: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/subjects/z3kw2hv>

Fun quizzes: <https://www.educationquizzes.com/ks3/english/>

Spelling Shed <https://www.spellingshed.com>

National Literacy Trust:

<https://literacytrust.org.uk/resources/?keyword=&reading=comprehension&phase=secondary&age=11-14-ks3-s1-s2-s3&filter=true>

Shakespeare introduction and biography:

<https://www.shakespeare.org.uk/explore-shakespeare/shakespedia/william-shakespeare/william-shakespeare-biography/#>