

BBC Learning English – Shakespeare

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关于台词的备注:

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Shakespeare the Man 莎士比亚其人

Insert

William: Who do you think is the most famous writer in English?

A: Shakespeare?

B: I would say Shakespeare.

C: Well, it's got to be Shakespeare.

William: Shakespeare? Ok, that's the correct answer.

Li: Yes, Shakespeare is the correct answer! 莎士比亚是英国文学和戏剧史上最杰出的诗人和剧作家，他的影响力远远超越了国界和时空。著名戏剧家本·琼斯曾说：“他不只属于一个时代而属于所有世纪”。**Now the question is, how much do you know about Shakespeare?**

William: Well, we're going to be taking you on a journey of discovery of the Bard of Avon right here on BBC Learning English. I am William Kremer.

Yang Li: 大家好，我是杨莉。我们制作了一套特别系列节目《了解莎士比亚》，共八集，帮助大家从多种角度来欣赏莎士比亚的成就。比如，他的诗歌和他为英国语言创造的名言和警句。

William: His great comedies and tragedies.

Yang Li: 杰出的喜剧和悲剧。

William: And also something most relevant to you. Learning about Shakespeare can be full of fun.

Yang Li: 是的,让学习莎士比亚变得轻松有意思。为了帮助大家练习听力，节目的前五分钟基本上是英文访谈录音，后半部是翻译和讲解。好，今天播出第一辑，**Shakespeare the Man** 莎士比亚其人。

William: Now in talking about Shakespeare the man, there is no better place to start our journey than his birthplace.

Li+Will: Stratford-upon-Avon.

Yang Li: 现在我来到了莎士比亚故乡斯特拉特福镇，因为这个小城镇位于埃文河畔，所以被称为埃文河畔的斯特拉特福镇。 **Stratford-upon-Avon**. 今天接待我的是莎士比亚专家尼



克, I'm joined by Dr Nick Walton, Lecturer in Shakespeare Studies at The Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.

Hi Nick it's a great pleasure to have you on the very first programme of the Shakespeare series with BBC Learning English.

Nick: Thanks very much Li, nice to be with you.

Yang Li: So we are here right at the very ground where Shakespeare was born.

Nick: That's right.

Insert

(Exhibitor at leather workshop)

Exhibitor: Yes it is right. This is John Shakespeare's leather workshop.

Yang Li: 展览馆的讲解员正在介绍莎士比亚父亲的皮货作坊里的一些展品。

Exhibitor: And he made small leather goods, pockets, purses, gloves, and every gentleman would need a sword holder.

Yang Li: So looking at Shakespeare's life, would you say that he's a self-made man?

Nick: I would say he's a self-made man because he didn't go to university, as some other playwrights did in the time, he was the son of a glover. He went on to become the world's most famous playwright and poet, then to come back to Stratford to buy the second biggest house in the town, and also to own over 100 acres of land. That seems to me very much evidence of somebody who made their way in the world from a relatively humble origin to begin with.

Extract from Taming of the Shrew

(Acting at the museum)

Actor: My master's grown quarrelsome. I should knock you first, and then I know after who comes by the worst...

Yang Li: 两个身着古装的演员正在表演莎剧片断驯悍记, Taming of the Shrew.

Actor: ...Help, masters, help! My master's gone mad!

Yang Li: In acting Shakespeare's plays how do you feel about that experience?

Actor: To perform Shakespeare in the house where he was born is utterly fantastic. To think that he was living in the next room writing all of his plays, and we are here performing it, is very special indeed.

- Yang Li: So, Nick, we know that Shakespeare was able to probe the human spirit with great insight in all his plays. What sort of life experience gave him that power?
- Nick: One of the things to be aware of, is that Shakespeare would have been a great observer. And there are many things that happened during Shakespeare's own life which we can perhaps see reflected in his plays. For instance, Shakespeare's father, John, fell into debt late in his life. This would have been quite a traumatic situation, an experience for his father. Other elements of Shakespeare's life which perhaps reflect in his plays are his interest in things like twins. Shakespeare had twins himself, Judith and Hamnet.
- Yang Li: You mentioned that Shakespeare was married at the age of 18 to somebody who was 8 years older. That was very unusual wasn't it?
- Nick: It was unusual for the time. Shakespeare was young to marry but what we do know is that actually the reason for this was that Ann Hathaway was pregnant at the time. Pregnant with their first child and for this reason perhaps it was a slightly speedy marriage to some extent. But I think what it does show, as well, is that we see Shakespeare the young man in love.
- Yang Li: In terms of temperament, what kind of man was he? Was he comic? Was he serious? What would you say?
- Nick: His plays suggest a very sympathetic figure. Somebody who understood the sort of problems which people find life facing them with. That might be the madness of love, it might be the sadness of grief, it might be the biting sense of ambition which somebody feels. But I feel that Shakespeare was somebody who was sympathetic, somebody who was curious, and somebody really who was non-judgemental. Shakespeare doesn't judge his characters, he simply presents them as they are, and he leaves the judgement for us, the audience, really.
- William: Hello and welcome back to the studio. Did you find that difficult to understand? Don't worry because in a minute Li and I will be listening again to some of her interviews from Stratford. But before that, did you know that in Shakespeare's plays we can find a special phrase for when we find something difficult to understand. Let's find out more with our new feature: S words.

S Words: It's all Greek to Me 对牛弹琴

Insert

(Someone speaking Greek)

Presenter: 嗯? 这听上去可不像莎士比亚?

这是某人在说希腊语 **Greek**. 你听得懂吗? 不懂... 这正是我们今天要介绍了莎翁典故。下面是来自历史剧凯撒大帝的一段著名对话, **Julius Caesar**.

Example

Cassius: *Did Cicero say anything?*
Casca: *Ay, he spoke Greek.*
Cassius: *To what effect?*
Casca: *Nay, an I tell you that, I'll ne'er look you i' the face again: but those that understood him smiled at one another and shook their heads; but, for mine own part, it was Greek to me.*

Presenter: 这出剧里的演员都是罗马人。莎士比亚设想他们当中没有人懂希腊语 **Greek**。于是就用了这么一句话。 **It was Greek to me**, 说的是剧中没有人明白 **Cicero** 在说些什么, 这类似汉语中的对牛弹琴。

Example

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Presenter: 如今莎士比亚的这句台词。 **It was Greek to me** 已经成为人们熟知和常用的一句成语。 **It's all Greek to me**. 类似汉语中的对牛弹琴。 **It's all Greek to me**. 下面我们一起来听听人们在现实生活中是如何使用这个成语的。

Examples

Woman: *I just can't understand anything in this computer manual! It's full of technical language. It's all Greek to me!*

Man: *What do they want? What are they asking in this application form? I don't understand it at all. It's all just Greek to me.*

Presenter: 回到莎士比亚, 这句话是不是他创造出来的? 当时大概也有一些类似的词语, 不过能让这句话得以普及, 那可绝对是靠莎翁的名剧 **Julius Caesar**.

Example

Casca: *But those that understood him smiled at one another and shook their heads; but, for mine own part, it was Greek to me.*

S Words

William: You're listening to BBC Learning English with me, William Kremer, and Yang Li. Welcome back from Stratford Li!

Yang Li: OK. 接下来的三分钟我和 **William** 将把前面采访录音中的关键词语进行讲解。另外大家也可以随时参阅节目文字稿。 **Now, William, my very first question for you: why is Shakespeare called The Bard?**

- William:** The word bard is an old-fashioned English word for a poet. But what is significant about calling Shakespeare The Bard, is actually the word 'the', which suggests that Shakespeare is the greatest poet of all.
- Yang Li:** Interesting, bard 古英语中意思是诗人，但加上定冠词 the, The Bard 就成为了莎士比亚的别称，意思是，他是首屈一指的大诗人。
- William:** Looking at Shakespeare as a self-made man, we heard phrases like: the son of a glover.
- Yang Li:** 皮匠的儿子。
- William:** He had twins.
- Yang Li:** 莎士比亚有一对双胞胎。
- William:** Humble origin.
- Yang Li:** 出身贫寒。
- William:** He made his own way in the world.
- Yang Li:** 自己闯出了一道成功的路。

Insert

I would say he's a self-made man because he didn't go to university, as some other playwrights did in the time, he was the son of a glover. Shakespeare did so much in a lifestyle from relatively humble origins; in the fact that he owned his own acting company, he was a part shareholder in the Globe Theatre, then to come back to Stratford to buy the second biggest house in the town, and also to own over 100 acres of land. That seems to me very much evidence of somebody who made their way in the world from a relatively humble origin to begin with.

- William:** One of the amazing things about Shakespeare's plays was that there was something for everybody, rich or poor.
- Yang Li:** 莎士比亚的戏剧具有广泛吸引力，阳春白雪和下里巴人兼而有之。
- William:** They also have a universal appeal.
- Yang Li:** Universal appeal 对全球各地的人都有吸引力。
- William:** We often wonder what kind of man Shakespeare was and what makes Shakespeare Shakespeare?
- Yang Li:** Good question. 莎士比亚究竟是个什么样的人呢？Let's hear what Nick said.

Insert

One of the things to be aware of, is that Shakespeare would have been a great observer. And there are many things that happened during Shakespeare's own life which we can perhaps see reflected in his plays.



Yang Li: 莎士比亚一定是一个敏锐的观察家。 A great observer.

William: A great observer indeed. Nick also said something about his temperament, there are three key words he used.

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But I feel that Shakespeare was somebody who was sympathetic, somebody who was curious, and somebody really who was non-judgemental. Shakespeare doesn't judge his characters, he simply presents them as they are.

Yang Li: 这里我们听到了三个关键词。

William: He was sympathetic, curious and non-judgemental.

Yang Li: 富有同情心的 **sympathetic** 好奇的 **curious** 不评头品足给人下结论的，就是 **non-judgemental**. I think another aspect of Shakespeare was that he was very philosophical wasn't he?

William: That's exactly what we're going to look at next week. Shakespeare the philosopher.

Yang Li: 下周我们将探讨作为哲学家的莎士比亚，欢迎到时收听。 Bye bye.

William: Bye bye.

