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Shakespeare

897 words

When it comes to a famous English poet and playwright, William Shakespeare might be the first person in most people's mind. Since his plays are still popular, widely studied, and prevalent over the world nowadays, for this reason, it is not surprising why everyone knows his name. During his life, Shakespeare was a respected poet and playwright, nevertheless, his reputation was not as remarkable as the present-day. His works has been translated into many languages and published around the world, due to the fact that he is a creative person and creates many prominent works. Not only being well-known, but Shakespeare's works also have the great impact on many branches of liberal art such as literature, theatre, and language, which it has shaped many writes' ideas, present-day movies, and the English language.

¹ To begin with literature, the literary development of Shakespeare's works can be distinguished in four periods, in which each period was characterized by the development in his personal style. In the first period, from 1588 to 1593, Shakespeare's works were most likely to follow the traditional formatting. ²Most of his first period works were dominated by history plays, which derived from the reality such as Henry VI, Parts I, II, and III, King John, and

¹ Essay Mania Contributor. "Shakespeare's Influence" *Essay Mania*. 5 Feb 2013.
<<http://essaymania.com/168199/shakespeare-influence>>

² Robert Huntington Fletcher. "The Drama From About 1550 To 1642 " 5 Feb 2013.
<<http://classiclit.about.com/library/bl-etexts/rfletcher/bl-rfletcher-history-6-shakespeare.htm>>

Richard III. ³Shakespeare's writing was more individualized and significantly different from the conventional formatting during 1594 to 1601. Additionally, the works were mainly tragedies, comedies, and combination of the two so as to get to a greater depth of the characters' humanity. In Shakespeare's tragedies, the characters are similar to the comedic characters, which they contain strengths and weakness that have effects on the characters and the play. There were two of his famous tragedies during second period, which were Romeo and Juliet, and Julius Caesar. Also, The Shakespeare's comedies bloomed at that time because the heroines are as outstanding as the heroes, as the result, it is the interesting thing in his comedies. A Midsummer's Night Dream, As You Like it, and Much Ado About Nothing, for example, were the comedies that Shakespeare wrote during second period. ⁴Shakespeare's third period is in between 1601 and 1609. He was able to get into the essence of human feeling and misery by passing the characters. ⁵The romantic tragi-comedies plays were created in the final period, which the characters in the end are seemed to be happier ending compare to the previous plays. As the greatest poet, a great number of writers and novelists have been influenced and inspired by Shakespeare. Since his works are significantly different from the previous works, it creates a new writing style and a huge effect on literary background.

Most of the plays derived from the poetry, what is to say, there is a strong relationship between theatre and literature. For this reason, Shakespeare also has the influence on every parts of the theatre especially in the characterization, plot, and

³ Robert Huntington Fletcher. "The Drama From About 1550 To 1642 " 5 Feb 2013.
<<http://classiclit.about.com/library/bl-etexts/rfletcher/bl-rfletcher-history-6-shakespeare.htm>>

⁴ Robert Huntington Fletcher. "The Drama From About 1550 To 1642 " 5 Feb 2013.
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⁵ Essay Mania Contributor. "Shakespeare's Influence" *Essay Mania*. 5 Feb 2013.
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genre.⁶ In the plays of Hamlet, for instance, is the prominent one that Shakespeare could integrate characterization with plot that is if the main character was obviously different, the plot would be totally changed. Also, he showed how the plays could explore a character's inner feeling. Moreover, Romeo and Juliet is another example of new kind of the plays, which Shakespeare could create.⁷ Since before the Shakespeare's creation, the romance was not considered to be an appropriated topic for tragedy, however, he combined the tragedy and comedy together to create a new romantic tragedy genre, which later this kind of performance has become popular because it deals with various themes and feeling that most people can relate to. For this reason, Shakespeare has become the well-known playwright, who could totally change the original theatre. In addition to still being performed Shakespeare's plays, nowadays, many of present-movies' ideas are derived from him.

⁸The language's history, most of the time, was influenced by the well-known people who widely impacted on society in term of beliefs, feelings, and thoughts. Like the English language, Shakespeare was the one who helped develop English rule, grammar, and words to make it more standardized and expressive. During the Elizabeth age, English vocabulary was not able to be expressed sufficiently for writers in some ideas. Accordingly, Shakespeare expressed it by inventing, borrowing, or absorbing a word and a phrase from foreign languages, which is known as neologizing. Owing to wars, exploration, and colonization, it was easier to combine with another language.⁹ During 1500 to 1659, there were 30,000 new words added to

⁶ Wikipedia Contributor. "William Shakespeare's Influence" *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 5 Feb 2013. < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare's_influence >

⁷ Wikipedia Contributor. "William Shakespeare" *Wikipedia The Free Encyclopedia*. 5 Feb 2013. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare>

⁸ POR Vânia Soares Barbosa. "The English Language During Shakespeare's Time" 5 Feb 2013. < <http://www.mafua.ufsc.br/vaniasoares.html>>

⁹ Wikipedia Contributor. "William Shakespeare's Influence" *Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia*. 5 Feb 2013. < http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_Shakespeare's_influence >

English language, which those 1,700 words were first used by Shakespeare, and many of Shakespeare's phrases and words are still used in common conversation today. Furthermore, he has named a lot of babies. The name Jessica was first created by Shakespeare, which she was Shylock's daughter in *The Merchant of Venice*, for example. Hence, Shakespeare has entirely changed English language.

Above from what I have mentioned, Shakespeare is considered to be a writer who had the greatest impact on the liberal art especially in the literature, theatre, and language. In addition to being performed and studied on his works, it is so influential that many today works are developed from Shakespeare's idea. *Romeo and Juliet*, for example, is one of the most popular stories and plays, which it is studied and performed today. And, many phrases and words using today, are invented by Shakespeare. For this reason, Shakespeare has become a renowned writer.