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William Shakespeare and his works.

William Shakespeare is probably the greatest dramatist and poet in the British literature. In his early twenties, he began to work in the theatre in London. In the 1590’s, he started writing plays for a theatre company and acted as well. He performed at the Globe Theatre in London and went on tour.

Shakespeare’s plays were first published in 1623, seven years after his death, so we do not know the exact dates of each play’s release. His early plays include Richard III and Romeo and Juliet; among his famous comedies are A Midsummer Night’s Dream and Twelfth Night and his great tragedies include King Lear, Macbeth and, of course, Hamlet.

No doubt that every Shakespeare’s fan has his or her own short list of the poet’s greatest works.

Shakespeare is perhaps most famous for Romeo and Juliet, the classic story of two lovers and it is one on the most famous love tragedies in the world. This play has seeped into the consciousness of popular culture: if we describe someone as romantic, we might describe him as “a Romeo”, and the balcony scene is possibly the world’s most recognized dramatic text. In Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare, star-crossed lovers Romeo and Juliet are doomed from the start, and the audience is aware of this from the prologue. «From forth the fatal loins of these two foes a pair of star-crossed lovers take their life». The key reason behind Romeo and Juliet’s popularity is its timeless theme; anyone of any age today can relate to a love story about two people from very different backgrounds.

Macbeth deserves its place on this list because it is “tightly written”. William Shakespeare once said, “For I have sworn thee fair, and thought thee bright, who art as black as hell, as dark as night.” The play is about a king who is murdered by one of his most trusted men trying to gain power. During the play Shakespeare heightens the mood by using various accounts of imagery. The blood and night imagery that Shakespeare uses adds to the evil, darkness and deception surrounding the play.

Hamlet, the first in Shakespeare's series of great tragedies, was initially classified as a problem play when the term became fashionable in the nineteenth century. Hamlet focuses on the complications arising from love, death, and betrayal, without offering the audience a decisive and positive resolution to these complications. This is partly due to the simple fact that for Hamlet, there can be no definitive answers to life's most daunting questions. Indeed, Hamlet's world is one of perpetual ambiguity.

To sum up, William Shakespeare’s success with millions of readers lies in his ability to combine clever plots with excellent character drawing, and a keen sense of humour with great powers of observation.

William Shakespeare’s language is straightforward and good and it is pleasant to read his books in the original. That is why they are popular with the language students.