

# The works of SHAKESPEARE

## 154 SONNETS 38 PLAYS

### COMEDIES

*Some of his comedies are*  
A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM  
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL  
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

### HISTORIES

*Some of his histories are*  
HENRY THE IV PART ONE & TWO  
HENRY THE VI PART ONE-THREE  
RICHARD II & RICHARD III

### TRAGEDIES

*Some of his histories are*  
ANTHONY AND CLEOPATRA  
ROMEO AND JULIET  
JULIUS CAESAR  
MACBETH  
HAMLET

### WORDSMITH

Shakespeare is said to be responsible for the introduction of 1700 new words into the English language. Words like *amazement, eventful, majestic, hurry, generous* and *lonely* originated with The Bard. He also created many phrases that are still in use today. Some examples are: *all that glitters is not gold, catch a cold, naked truth, leap frog, breaking the ice, and fair play.*



## A SHAKESPEAREAN SONNET

is a fourteen line poem written in iambic pentameter. Sonnets have the following rhyme scheme:

**ABAB CDCD EFEF GG**

## SHAKESPEARE WROTE

two narrative poems when the theatres were closed in 1593: *The Rape of Lucrece* and *Venus and Adonis*.

## AN IAMB IS A METRICAL FOOT OF ONE STRESSED & UNSTRESSED SYLLABLE

Penta is Greek for five. There are five iambs in a line of iambic pentameter.

## IAMBIC PENTAMETER

So long|as men|can breathe|or eyes|can see,  
So long|lives this|and this|gives life|to thee.  
Sonnet 18

Iambic Pentameter sounds like:  
daDUM daDUM daDUM daDUM daDUM.

## THE FIRST FOLIO

published in 1623, seven years after his death, was the first collected edition of Shakespeare's works. It contained thirty-six plays, and eighteen of these had never been published before. The publishers, John Hemminge and Henry Condell, separated the plays into Histories, Comedies and Tragedies.

