

## Shakespeare

### The Lost Years

#### Task 1

Watch the documentary about Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon. Choose the correct options.

- Shakespeare's wife was ... him.
  - younger than
  - about the same age as
  - older than
- They had ... children.
  - one
  - two
  - three
- The years between Shakespeare starting his family and moving to London are called his 'lost years' because ... .
  - he didn't write anything
  - we have no idea what he was doing
  - he wrote several plays which are now lost

#### Task 2

Watch the documentary again. Complete the sentences with the correct names and numbers.

26 / 2 / Anne / Susanna / 18 / Judith / 3

- Shakespeare got married when he was \_\_\_\_\_.
- His wife's name was \_\_\_\_\_. She was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.

- When they got married, she was \_\_\_\_\_ months pregnant.
- Their first child was called \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ years later, they had twins, \_\_\_\_\_ and Hamnet.

#### Task 3

Complete the sentences from the documentary with the correct words and expressions.

gave birth to / pregnant / married / wedding day / twins / daughter / children / wife / having / were born

At 18, William \_\_\_\_\_ a local woman, Anne Hathaway, who was eight years older than him. Anne was three months \_\_\_\_\_ on their \_\_\_\_\_, so six months later she \_\_\_\_\_ their first child, a \_\_\_\_\_, Susanna. And two years after Susanna, \_\_\_\_\_, Hamnet and Judith, a boy and a girl. So he's 22 and he's got three \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_. It's a lot of pressure on him. And between \_\_\_\_\_ his three children and turning up in London a few years later in the 1590s, Shakespeare goes missing. There's no record of him.

#### Task 4

Can you remember the words and expressions from the previous task? Write the correct words. There are one, two or three words in each gap.

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\_\_\_\_\_, so six months later  
she \_\_\_\_\_ their first child, a  
\_\_\_\_\_, Susanna. And two years  
after Susanna, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Hamnet and Judith, a  
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\_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_. It's  
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\_\_\_\_\_ his three children and  
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1590s, Shakespeare goes missing. There's  
no record of him.

## Answers

### Task 1

1. c) older than
2. c) three
3. b) we have no idea what he was doing

### Task 2

1. Shakespeare got married when he was 18.
2. His wife's name was Anne. She was 26 years old.
3. When they got married, she was 3 months pregnant.
4. Their first child was called Susanna.
5. 2 years later, they had twins, Judith and Hamnet.

### Task 3

At 18, William married a local woman, Anne Hathaway, who was eight years older than him. Anne was three months pregnant on their wedding day, so six months later she gave birth to their first child, a daughter, Susanna. And two years after Susanna, twins were born, Hamnet and Judith, a boy and a girl. So he's 22 and he's got three children and a wife. It's a lot of pressure on him. And between having his three children and turning up in London a few years later in the 1590s, Shakespeare goes missing. There's no record of him.

### Task 4

At 18, William married a local woman, Anne Hathaway, who was eight years older than him. Anne was three months pregnant on their wedding day, so six months later

she gave birth to their first child, a daughter, Susanna. And two years after Susanna, twins were born, Hamnet and Judith, a boy and a girl. So he's 22 and he's got three children and a wife. It's a lot of pressure on him. And between having his three children and turning up in London a few years later in the 1590s, Shakespeare goes missing. There's no record of him.