

## Elementary Podcasts Series 4 Episode 17

### While you listen

Elementary Podcasts are suitable for learners with different levels of English. Here are some ways to make them easier (if you have a lower level of English) or more difficult (if you have a higher level of English). You can choose one or two of these suggestions – you don't have to follow all of them!

### Making it easier

- Read all the exercises before you listen to the podcast.
- Look up the words in the exercises that you don't know in a dictionary.
- Play the podcast as many times as you need.
- Play each part of the podcast separately.
- Read the transcript after you have listened to the podcast.

### Making it harder

- Listen to the podcast before you read the exercises.
- Only play the podcast once before answering the questions.
- Play the whole podcast without a break.
- Don't read the transcript.

## Exercises

*Answers are at the end of this support pack.*

### Activity 1

Choose all the sentences that are true according to the podcast.

1. Ravi isn't a big fan of Shakespeare.
2. Tess likes Shakespeare.
3. We don't know very much about Shakespeare's life.
4. Tess thinks Shakespeare didn't write the plays.
5. The Globe Theatre in London is four hundred years old.
6. You can't sit down in the Globe Theatre.
7. A lot of people read Shakespeare's plays.
8. There are over four hundred films of Shakespeare's plays.

### Activity 2

Put the words in order to make sentences from the podcast.

1. of the best / the English / It's / one / plays / in / language
2. very / really don't / about / We / know / much / his life
3. copy / the original / from / It's a / of / Globe Theatre / the seventeenth century
4. a big / the middle / you / There's / space in / where / stand up

5. theatre were / people / in / the / nearly all / The / tourists
6. many / people do / Shakespeare / How / you think / read / for pleasure?
7. There are / four hundred / Shakespeare's / more than / and twenty / film versions of / plays
8. of / Japanese / I saw / a fantastic / version / King Lear / once

### Activity 3

Complete Ravi's biography of Shakespeare with these verbs. Use the past tense. If you can't remember, listen again to that part of the podcast.

die  
go  
have  
is born  
marry  
work  
write

He 1. \_\_\_\_\_ in fifteen sixty-four, in a town called Stratford on Avon.

He 2. \_\_\_\_\_ a woman called Anne Hathaway and they

3. \_\_\_\_\_ three children.

Then he 4. \_\_\_\_\_ to London and 5. \_\_\_\_\_ for a theatre company at the Globe Theatre.

And he 6. \_\_\_\_\_ thirty-seven plays.

And he 7. \_\_\_\_\_ when he was fifty-two.

### Activity 4

Put the negative verb forms in the right spaces in these sentences from the podcast.

's not

aren't

didn't know

didn't write

Don't

don't know

'm not being

wasn't

1. It \_\_\_\_\_ the English language that I know.
2. I \_\_\_\_\_ funny, Tess.
3. We really \_\_\_\_\_ very much about his life.
4. Some people even say that Shakespeare \_\_\_\_\_ the plays.
5. They think that a man from a small town like Stratford \_\_\_\_\_ about the world, and he \_\_\_\_\_ well educated.
6. I think you have to stand up. There \_\_\_\_\_ any seats.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ be so dramatic, Ravi.

**Activity 5**

Choose the correct negative form of 'have'.

- I \_\_\_\_\_ got any brothers or sisters.  
a) haven't  
b) don't have
- I \_\_\_\_\_ a big breakfast in the morning.  
a) haven't  
b) don't have
- She \_\_\_\_\_ got time to help you now.  
a) hasn't  
b) doesn't have
- He \_\_\_\_\_ classes on Fridays.  
a) hasn't  
b) doesn't have
- I \_\_\_\_\_ a very nice time at the party last night.  
a) hadn't  
b) didn't have
- We \_\_\_\_\_ very much money when we were children.  
a) hadn't  
b) didn't have
- I \_\_\_\_\_ finished reading the book yet.  
a) haven't  
b) don't have
- My sister \_\_\_\_\_ started school yet.

a) hasn't

b) doesn't have

**Activity 6**

Make these sentences negative.

- I've got a white Rolls Royce.

I \_\_\_\_\_.

- I like reading Shakespeare's plays.

I \_\_\_\_\_.

- My parents are going to London next month.

My parents \_\_\_\_\_.

- I have dinner at home on Saturdays.

I \_\_\_\_\_.

- My girlfriend works in a supermarket.

My girlfriend \_\_\_\_\_.

- My father was born in France.

My father \_\_\_\_\_.

- I saw 'King Lear' on TV last week.

I \_\_\_\_\_.

- My brother studied English when he was at school.

My brother \_\_\_\_\_.

**Activity 7**

Theatre vocabulary. Put the words in the right spaces.

audience

costumes

curtains

interval

part

scene

stage

tickets

1. I've got two \_\_\_\_\_ for 'Macbeth' tomorrow night. Would you like to come?
2. The actors usually all come on to the \_\_\_\_\_ together when the play's finished.
3. Quick – the play's starting! The \_\_\_\_\_ are opening!
4. My favourite \_\_\_\_\_ is when Macbeth meets the three witches.
5. I hope there's an \_\_\_\_\_ soon – I need to go to the bathroom!
6. The actors were wearing seventeenth-century \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The play was so boring that most of the \_\_\_\_\_ fell asleep.
8. My sister's got a \_\_\_\_\_ in her school production of 'Othello'.

### Activity 8

Do you know the names of some of Shakespeare's plays? Use these words to complete the titles.

Cleopatra

Dream

Juliet

Lear

Like It

Night

Venice

Tale

1. The Merchant of \_\_\_\_\_
2. A Midsummer Night's \_\_\_\_\_
3. Twelfth \_\_\_\_\_
4. The Winter's \_\_\_\_\_
5. Antony and \_\_\_\_\_
6. King \_\_\_\_\_
7. Romeo and \_\_\_\_\_
8. As You \_\_\_\_\_

### Activity 9 – Leave a comment

Do you think Tess is right – do non-British people like Shakespeare more than the British do? What do you think of him? Did you study Shakespeare at school? Which is your favourite play? And tell us what you think of some famous writers from your country. Leave a comment on <http://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/en/elementary-podcasts/series-04-episode-17> and we'll discuss your answers in the next podcast.

## Answers

### Activity 1

True: 1, 2, 3, 8

False: 4, 5, 6, 7

### Activity 2

1. It's one of the best plays in the English language.
2. We really don't know very much about his life.
3. It's a copy of the original Globe Theatre from the seventeenth century.
4. There's a big space in the middle where you stand up.
5. The people in the theatre were nearly all tourists.
6. How many people do you think read Shakespeare for pleasure?
7. There are more than four hundred and twenty film versions of Shakespeare's plays.
8. I saw a fantastic Japanese version of King Lear once.

### Activity 3

1. was born
2. married
3. had
4. went
5. worked
6. wrote
7. died

### Activity 4

1.'s not, 2.'m not being, 3.don't know, 4.didn't write, 5.didn't know, wasn't, 6.aren't, 7.Don't

### Activity 5

1.a, 2.b, 3.a, 4.b, 5.b, 6.b, 7.a, 8.a

**Activity 6**

1. I haven't got a white Rolls Royce.
2. I don't like reading Shakespeare's plays.
3. My parents aren't going to London next month.
4. I don't have dinner at home on Saturdays.
5. My girlfriend doesn't work in a supermarket.
6. My father wasn't born in France.
7. I didn't see 'King Lear' on TV last week.
8. My brother didn't study English when he was at school.

**Activity 7**

- 1.tickets, 2.stage, 3.curtains, 4.scene, 5.interval, 6.costumes, 7.audience, 8.part

**Activity 8**

- 1.The Merchant of Venice, 2.A Midsummer Night's Dream, 3.Twelfth Night, 4.The Winter's Tale, 5.Antony and Cleopatra, 6.King Lear, 7.Romeo and Juliet, 8.As You Like It