



Conquesta 2019

(International Multiple Choice Primary School Olympiads – Est. 1998)
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English 2 (First Additional Language) – Grade 9

Welcome to your Conquesta Olympiad. When you have decided which of the answers is correct, scratch out the letter in the matching square on your answer sheet. Example:- If the answer to question 4 is c, then scratch out the letter c in the square containing c next to the number 4 (see example 1 below). If you've made a mistake and b should have been the answer, neatly cross out the mistake and then scratch out b (see example 2 below).

Example 1:-

4.	a	b	c	d
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Example 2:-

4.	a	b	c	d
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Read the extract on the right for questions 1 – 15.

- Who wonders whether Shakespeare is still relevant today?**
 (a) Teachers. (b) Learners.
 (c) Parents. (d) Business people.
- Select a synonym for the underlined word 'relevance'.**
 (a) significance (b) appropriate
 (c) optional (d) variance
- Many people argue that Shakespeare is still relevant. Select one argument that is not used.**
 (a) He introduced thousands of words and phrases to the English language.
 (b) He introduced new concepts.
 (c) He created new grammatical structures.
 (d) It did not change the way people think and behave.
- Identify an example of a common noun.**
 (a) English. (b) But. (c) Assignments. (d) The.
- Identify an example of a proper noun.**
 (a) English. (b) Language.
 (c) Wonder. (d) Shakespeare.
- Identify an example of a regular verb.**
 (a) Spoke. (b) Taught.
 (c) Wrote. (d) Worked.
- What does the writer say about Shakespeare's use of language at the time that he was writing?**
 (a) It was daring, forward thinking.
 (b) It was normal for people at the time.
 (c) Few people understood the language.
 (d) He received a lot of criticism.
- 'Shakespeare had a number of contemporaries, some of whom were quite talented, but it is his work which has endured to be performed for centuries.'**
Identify what type of sentence this sentence is.
 (a) Simple. (b) Complex.
 (c) Compound. (d) None of the above.
- Identify which statement is true when considering what makes a compound sentence.**
 (a) It contains one main clause or thought, and one or more subordinate clauses.
 (b) It has one finite verb and deals with one idea.
 (c) It has two or more finite verbs joined by a co-ordinating conjunction.
 (d) A sentence with 2 finite verbs but no subordinate clause.



Is Shakespeare relevant today?

Some people, especially individuals who have been assigned the works of Shakespeare as school assignments, have wondered about whether or not Shakespeare is still relevant. The relevance of Shakespeare and many other writers and artists who worked in previous eras is also a popular topic among educators and researchers who focus on literature. Many people argue that the enduring popularity of Shakespeare is a testimony to his relevance, and that additionally, he has made major contributions not only to the English language, but to the way in which people think and behave. Shakespeare has quite literally shaped society in many ways.

From a purely linguistic standpoint, Shakespeare is most definitely relevant. Shakespeare introduced thousands of words and phrases to the English language, along with new concepts and grammatical structures. While Shakespeare's language sometimes was quite daring and forward thinking for the time, he literally coined words to describe previously unimaginable situations and events, thereby enriching the English language immensely. People who wonder what makes Shakespeare relevant might want to consider that many common phrases, from 'for goodness sake' to 'break the ice', come from Shakespeare's works.

His explorations of poetry and grammar also expanded the scope of English, laying the groundwork for other authors who worked after him. Shakespeare's work also transcended traditional boundaries. His tragedies, for example, include a great deal of comic relief, in a marked departure from the traditional presentation of tragedies. Likewise, his comedies included deeply tragic and very human moments. While the mixture of genres is widely acceptable and sometimes even expected today, it wasn't in the days of Shakespeare, and it was a radical shift in the way that plays were presented.

The characterisation in Shakespeare also stands out, making Shakespeare relevant on a personal level to many people. His plays continue to be performed, not because Shakespeare is famous, but because his characters feel very vivid and alive to viewers. While they may be kings, queens, and princes, they struggle with the same issues that many struggle with as well. The stories of Shakespeare are timeless, as proved by the fact that many of the themes which he deals with come up again and again in modern literature, film, and theatre.

Shakespeare had a number of contemporaries, some of whom were quite talented, but it is his work which has endured to be performed for centuries. For English speakers and residents of English-speaking nations, what makes Shakespeare relevant is the fact that the world would be very different without him. Shakespeare's plays and sonnets have contributed in a major way to modern society, from behaviours which have been shaped by the lessons found in Shakespeare to the words and sentence structures used in this very article.

[Taken from: www.wisegeek.com/is-shakespeare-relevant-today.html]