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Chapter 1 : English Renaissance - Wikipedia

Excerpt from English Literature During the Lifetime of Shakespeare The following pages attempt to tell once more, and as far as possible at first hand, the fascinating story of Elizabethan literature.

Hire Writer Till , no other record alludes to his life. This observation was partly correct, for Shakespeare was multifaceted. It was to this company that Shakespeare directed his unswerving attention by composing all his plays solely for their enactment. Shakespeare was diffident about the publication of his plays and took no interest in their printing, being interested only in their faithful and dramatical reproduction. This is responsible for the problems in establishing the accuracy of his texts and in dating them. It has, of late, been revived. During this period, he wrote Henry VI c. He devoted himself principally to Tragedy after Through his plays, he for the first time in English literature created believable, expressive characters. He delved into the psyche of his protagonists and imbued them with life. What perhaps makes these characters lasting and unforgettable is that they are neither wholly evil nor wholly good, but real. Hamlet fascinates readers with his complexity. Emotional and daring, lackadaisical about revenge and shades of insanity are traits that render him complex. Shylock in The Merchant Of Venice sins as much as he is sinned against, as much a hero as a villain. It has been said that a compulsive and insightful reading of all of his plays serves to make one a better judge of human character, its motivations, conflicts, passions and fallacies. His thoroughness in the execution of his characters served to inspire generations of writers. He also helped develop the English language. English, before the times of Shakespeare was impulsive and unstructured. Shakespeare enhanced the beauty of the language by adding to its vocabulary and gave it depth by the beauty of his prose. Many of the phrases that his characters used have become common parlance. He freed the English language. The vividness of his imagination helped unify the thought and action of his characters and gave them force and passion, so much so that these characters inspire hatred and love, but never indifference. In Othello, for instance, it is the language which defines the play. However, the language of Othello gradually breaks down, as consumed by jealousy his character slowly disintegrates. This was one of the first plays in which the language evocatively moves in tandem with the plot. Another way in which Othello was revolutionary was that the main protagonist was one of the first or colored black heroes in the history of English literature. In spite of his race and also despite the fact that he was a foreigner in conventional Venice; he rises to a position of influence and marries a white woman, a circumstance unthought-of during Elizabethan times. Othello also has to overcome considerable racial discrimination. Shakespeare imbues Othello with all heroic and noble characteristics, save for one tragic flaw, jealousy. Also unique among Shakespearean tragedies, Othello was mostly a tragedy of character, while all the other Shakespearean tragedies were set amongst political backdrops, Othello was propelled and instigated by his self doubt, jealousy and by the diabolical wickedness in the character of Iago. Again, for Romeo and Juliet, the primary element of the play that resonates through time is the language. This is more poetry than prose. The characters, besides using poetry in speech, also use metaphors, oxymorons, allegories and paradoxes. Shakespeare also uses sonnets in the scenes between Romeo and Juliet to express their depth of love to each other. In these scenes, the language imbues their emotions with a rich texture. There are also a lot of action words used. It is this poetry of language that was to have a tremendous influence on the romantic poetry of Keats and also of Coleridge. We can fancy him as radiant aloft over all Nations of Englishmen, thousand years hence. From The Story of English. The range of his genius defies imagination. It will continue to stir future generations till eternity. How to cite this page Choose cite format:

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Chapter 2 : English literature - Wikipedia

The following pages attempt to tell once more, and as far as possible at first hand, the fascinating story of Elizabethan literature. But the tale has been somewhat compressed to treat what preceded the birth of Shakespeare with brevity, and what followed his death merely by indications and.

Literature[edit] William Shakespeare , chief figure of the English Renaissance, as portrayed in the Chandos portrait artist and authenticity not confirmed. England had a strong tradition of literature in the English vernacular , which gradually increased as English use of the printing press became common during the mid 16th century. Typically, the works of these playwrights and poets circulated in manuscript form for some time before they were published, and above all the plays of English Renaissance theatre were the outstanding legacy of the period. Philosophers and intellectuals included Thomas More and Francis Bacon. English thought advanced towards modern science with the Baconian Method , a forerunner of the Scientific Method. The language of the Book of Common Prayer , first published in , and at the end of the period the Authorised Version "King James Version" to Americans of the Bible had enduring impacts on the English consciousness. The English Reformation produced a huge programme of iconoclasm that destroyed almost all medieval religious art, and all but ended the skill of painting in England; English art was to be dominated by portraiture, and then later landscape art , for centuries to come. The significant English invention was the portrait miniature , which essentially took the techniques of the dying art of the illuminated manuscript and transferred them to small portraits worn in locket. Though the form was developed in England by foreign artists, mostly Flemish like Lucas Horenbout , the somewhat undistinguished founder of the tradition, by the late 16th century natives such as Nicolas Hilliard and Isaac Oliver produced the finest work, even as the best producers of larger portraits in oil were still foreigners. The portrait miniature had spread all over Europe by the 18th century. The portraiture of Elizabeth I was carefully controlled, and developed into an elaborate and wholly un-realist iconic style, that has succeeded in creating enduring images. Music[edit] English Renaissance music kept in touch with continental developments far more than visual art, and managed to survive the Reformation relatively successfully, though William Byrd and other major figures were Catholic. The Elizabethan madrigal was distinct from, but related to the Italian tradition. The colossal polychoral productions of the Venetian School had been anticipated in the works of Thomas Tallis, and the Palestrina style from the Roman School had already been absorbed prior to the publication of *Musica transalpina*, in the music of masters such as William Byrd. The Italian and English Renaissances were similar in sharing a specific musical aesthetic. In the late 16th century Italy was the musical center of Europe, and one of the principal forms which emerged from that singular explosion of musical creativity was the madrigal. In , Nicholas Yonge published in England the *Musica transalpina*—a collection of Italian madrigals that had been Anglicized—“an event which began a vogue of madrigal in England which was almost unmatched in the Renaissance in being an instantaneous adoption of an idea, from another country, adapted to local aesthetics. English poetry was exactly at the right stage of development for this transplantation to occur, since forms such as the sonnet were uniquely adapted to setting as madrigals: Composers such as Thomas Morley, the only contemporary composer to set Shakespeare, and whose work survives, published collections of their own, roughly in the Italian manner but yet with a unique Englishness; interest in the compositions of the English Madrigal School have enjoyed a considerable revival in recent decades. The most famous buildings are large show houses constructed for courtiers, and characterised by lavish use of glass, as at " Hardwick Hall , more glass than wall", Wollaton Hall and Hatfield House and Burghley House , the style continuing into the early 17th century before developing into Jacobean architecture. Lesser, but still large, houses like Little Moreton Hall continued to be constructed and expanded in essentially medieval half-timbered styles until the late 16th century. Church architecture essentially continued in a late Gothic style until the Reformation, and then stopped almost completely, although church monuments , screens and other fittings often had classical styles

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from about the mid-century. The few new church buildings were usually still Gothic in style, as in Langley Chapel of Believed to be the Earl of Essex The notion of calling this period "The Renaissance" is a modern invention, having been popularized by the historian Jacob Burckhardt in the 19th century. The idea of the Renaissance has come under increased criticism by many cultural historians , and some have contended that the "English Renaissance" has no real tie with the artistic achievements and aims of the Italian artists Leonardo da Vinci , Michelangelo , Donatello who are closely identified with Renaissance visual art. Whereas from the perspective of literary history, England had already experienced a flourishing of literature over years before the time of Shakespeare, during the last decades of the fourteenth century. For this reason, scholars find the singularity of the period called the English Renaissance questionable; C. Lewis , a professor of Medieval and Renaissance literature at Oxford and Cambridge , famously remarked to a colleague that he had "discovered" that there was no English Renaissance, and that if there had been one, it had "no effect whatsoever". Historians have also begun to consider the word "Renaissance" as an unnecessarily loaded word that implies an unambiguously positive "rebirth" from the supposedly more primitive Middle Ages. Some historians have asked the question "a renaissance for whom? Many historians and cultural historians now prefer to use the term " early modern " for this period, a term that highlights the period as a transitional one that led to the modern world, but attempts to avoid positive or negative connotations. Other cultural historians have countered that, regardless of whether the name "renaissance" is apt, there was undeniably an artistic flowering in England under the Tudor monarchs , culminating in Shakespeare and his contemporaries.

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Chapter 3 : Shakespeare's Times: Shakespeare-Gesellschaft

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This is a work of uncertain date, celebrating the Battle of Maldon of , at which the Anglo-Saxons failed to prevent a Viking invasion. Beowulf is the most famous work in Old English, and has achieved national epic status in England, despite being set in Scandinavia. The only surviving manuscript is the Nowell Codex , the precise date of which is debated, but most estimates place it close to the year Beowulf is the conventional title, [11] and its composition is dated between the 8th [12] [13] and the early 11th century. The poem is one of the earliest attested examples of Old English and is, with the runic Ruthwell Cross and Franks Casket inscriptions, one of three candidates for the earliest attested example of Old English poetry. It is also one of the earliest recorded examples of sustained poetry in a Germanic language. Middle English literature After the Norman conquest of England in , the written form of the Anglo-Saxon language became less common. Under the influence of the new aristocracy, French became the standard language of courts, parliament, and polite society. As the invaders integrated, their language and literature mingled with that of the natives, and the Norman dialects of the ruling classes became Anglo-Norman. From then until the 12th century, Anglo-Saxon underwent a gradual transition into Middle English. Political power was no longer in English hands, so that the West Saxon literary language had no more influence than any other dialect and Middle English literature was written in the many dialects that corresponded to the region, history, culture, and background of individual writers. They appeared between about and Another literary genre, that of Romances , appears in English from the 13th century, with King Horn and Havelock the Dane , based on Anglo-Norman originals such as the Romance of Horn ca. It is one of the better-known Arthurian stories of an established type known as the "beheading game". Developing from Welsh, Irish and English tradition, Sir Gawain highlights the importance of honour and chivalry. Preserved in the same manuscript with Sir Gawayne were three other poems, now generally accepted as the work of the same author, including an intricate elegiac poem, Pearl. Chaucer is best known today for The Canterbury Tales. This is a collection of stories written in Middle English mostly in verse although some are in prose , that are presented as part of a story-telling contest by a group of pilgrims as they travel together from Southwark to the shrine of St Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral. Chaucer is a significant figure in the development of the legitimacy of the vernacular , Middle English, at a time when the dominant literary languages in England were still French and Latin. At this time, literature in England was being written in various languages, including Latin, Norman-French, and English: A contemporary of William Langland and a personal friend of Chaucer, Gower is remembered primarily for three major works: It was popular and influential in the later revival of interest in the Arthurian legends. Medieval theatre In the Middle Ages , drama in the vernacular languages of Europe may have emerged from enactments of the liturgy. Mystery plays were presented in the porches of cathedrals or by strolling players on feast days. Miracle and mystery plays, along with morality plays or "interludes" , later evolved into more elaborate forms of drama, such as was seen on the Elizabethan stages. These were folk tales re-telling old stories, and the actors travelled from town to town performing these for their audiences in return for money and hospitality. Medieval mystery plays focused on the representation of Bible stories in churches as tableaux with accompanying antiphonal song. They developed from the 10th to the 16th century, reaching the height of their popularity in the 15th century before being rendered obsolete by the rise of professional theatre. There are four complete or nearly complete extant English biblical collections of plays from the late medieval period. The most complete is the York cycle of 48 pageants. They were performed in the city of York , from the middle of the 14th century until The plays were most popular in Europe during the 15th and 16th centuries. The English Renaissance was a cultural and artistic movement in England dating from the late 15th to the 17th

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century. It is associated with the pan-European Renaissance that is usually regarded as beginning in Italy in the late 14th century. Like most of northern Europe, England saw little of these developments until more than a century later. Renaissance style and ideas were slow in penetrating England, and the Elizabethan era in the second half of the 16th century is usually regarded as the height of the English Renaissance. Poems intended to be set to music as songs, such as those by Thomas Campion " , became popular as printed literature was disseminated more widely in households. Gorboduc is notable especially as the first verse drama in English to employ blank verse , and for the way it developed elements, from the earlier morality plays and Senecan tragedy , in the direction which would be followed by later playwrights. Jacobean period " [edit] In the early 17th century Shakespeare wrote the so-called " problem plays ", as well as a number of his best known tragedies , including Macbeth and King Lear. Less bleak than the tragedies, these four plays are graver in tone than the comedies of the s, but they end with reconciliation and the forgiveness of potentially tragic errors. A collection of by sonnets , dealing with themes such as the passage of time, love, beauty and mortality, were first published in a quarto. Besides Shakespeare and Ben Jonson, the major poets of the early 17th century included the Metaphysical poets: This, one of the most massive translation projects in the history of English up to this time, was started in and completed in This represents the culmination of a tradition of Bible translation into English that began with the work of William Tyndale , and it became the standard Bible of the Church of England. The Cavalier poets were another important group of 17th-century poets, who came from the classes that supported King Charles I during the English Civil War " King Charles reigned from and was executed They "were not a formal group, but all were influenced by" Ben Jonson. Most of the Cavalier poets were courtiers, with notable exceptions. For example, Robert Herrick was not a courtier, but his style marks him as a Cavalier poet. Cavalier works make use of allegory and classical allusions, and are influenced by Latin authors Horace, Cicero and Ovid. However, his major epic works, including Paradise Lost were published in the Restoration period. Restoration Age " [edit] This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. During the Interregnum, the royalist forces attached to the court of Charles I went into exile with the twenty-year-old Charles II. John Milton , religious epic poem Paradise Lost published in John Milton , one of the greatest English poets, wrote at this time of religious flux and political upheaval. Milton is best known for his epic poem Paradise Lost In general, publication of satire was done anonymously, as there were great dangers in being associated with a satire. John Dryden " was an influential English poet, literary critic, translator, and playwright who dominated the literary life of Restoration England to such a point that the period came to be known in literary circles as the Age of Dryden. He established the heroic couplet as a standard form of English poetry. Prose[edit] Prose in the Restoration period is dominated by Christian religious writing, but the Restoration also saw the beginnings of two genres that would dominate later periods, fiction and journalism. Religious writing often strayed into political and economic writing, just as political and economic writing implied or directly addressed religion. The Restoration was also the time when John Locke wrote many of his philosophical works. His two Treatises on Government, which later inspired the thinkers in the American Revolution. The Restoration moderated most of the more strident sectarian writing, but radicalism persisted after the Restoration. Puritan authors such as John Milton were forced to retire from public life or adapt, and those authors who had preached against monarchy and who had participated directly in the regicide of Charles I were partially suppressed. Consequently, violent writings were forced underground, and many of those who had served in the Interregnum attenuated their positions in the Restoration. John Bunyan stands out beyond other religious authors of the period. A single, large sheet of paper might have a written, usually partisan, account of an event. It is impossible to satisfactorily date the beginning of the novel in English. However, long fiction and fictional biographies began to distinguish themselves from other forms in England during the Restoration period. An existing tradition of Romance fiction in France and Spain was popular in England. One of the most significant figures in the rise of the novel in the Restoration period is Aphra Behn , author of Oroonoko , who was not only the first professional female

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novelist, but she may be among the first professional novelists of either sex in England. After a sharp drop in both quality and quantity in the s, the mids saw a brief second flowering of the drama, especially comedy.

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Chapter 4 : The 10 Best English Writers In Literary History

*English literature during the lifetime of Shakespeare [Felix Emmanuel Schelling] on theinnatdunvilla.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. This is a reproduction of a book published before This book may have occasional imperfections such as missing or blurred pages.*

He helped shape the English we use today, introducing up to words and dozens of well-known phrases. His plays are known around the world for their universal themes and insight into the human condition. Yet much about the playwright is a mystery. It was usual for christenings to take place on the third day after birth. He was born during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I, who had recently converted England to Protestantism. William was the third of eight children, though his two elder siblings did not survive childhood. Attendance records from this time have been lost. It is likely that he began his education at the age of six or seven. As his father was now a bailiff, young William probably attended the local grammar school. Its curriculum emphasised Greek classics and pupils also learned plays in Latin. Religious education was also important, and Shakespeare drew on these sources in his later work with classical and religious allusions. Shakespeare probably attended school until about age 14. There is no record of him going to university. Francesco da Mosto investigates how plausible it is that Shakespeare could have visited Venice. Shakespeare married the year-old Anne Hathaway, in when he was 18. She was already three months pregnant with their first child. The baptisms of his three children are the last record of him for seven years, known as his lost years. At some point Shakespeare went to London, leaving his family in Stratford, and established himself as a playwright and actor. A century later his first biographer suggested he fled to London to escape punishment for deer poaching. However, no records have been found of his activities in these years. The next known record of Shakespeare appears after he was already a playwright in London. Drama in Elizabethan theatre shifted from the religious to the secular and companies of players formed to entertain the public under the patronage of noblemen. Scholars suggest the application showed he was now a successful businessman as much as a talented playwright. He that wants money, means, and content is without three good friends. That year the author Francis Meres singled him out from a group of English writers as "the most excellent" in both comedy and tragedy. His work attracted royal attention; he acted in several performances before Queen Elizabeth I. Others suggest Richard II criticised her as it describes the overthrowing of a monarch. The wonder of our stage. James Shapiro on the building of the Globe. The king and the playwright: A Jacobean history BBC 4, The group built their own theatre called the Globe, and Shakespeare owned a 10% share. This made him even wealthier. He invested in property in Stratford and London, and records of his purchases survive. In he bought the second biggest house in Stratford for his family, as well as acres of farmland and a cottage. Later, he bought property to let in London, showing his business acumen. James Shapiro explains the changes Shakespeare faced after King James took the throne. King Lear, Act 1, Scene 1 Around this timeâ€¦

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Chapter 5 : William Shakespeare - HISTORY

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An Allegory of the Tudor Succession, c. The Victorian era and the early 20th century idealised the Elizabethan era. In popular culture, the image of those adventurous Elizabethan seafarers was embodied in the films of Errol Flynn. On balance, it can be said that Elizabeth provided the country with a long period of general if not total peace and generally increased prosperity due in large part to stealing from Spanish treasure ships, raiding settlements with low defenses, and selling African slaves. Having inherited a virtually bankrupt state from previous reigns, her frugal policies restored fiscal responsibility. That would be a prelude to the religious recovery of England for Catholicism. In , the Ridolfi plot was thwarted. In , the Throckmorton Plot was discovered, after Francis Throckmorton confessed his involvement in a plot to overthrow the Queen and restore the Catholic Church in England. The Essex Rebellion of has a dramatic element, as just before the uprising, supporters of the Earl of Essex, among them Charles and Joscelyn Percy younger brothers of the Earl of Northumberland , paid for a performance of Richard II at the Globe Theatre , apparently with the goal of stirring public ill will towards the monarchy. It was discovered in time with eight conspirators executed, including Guy Fawkes , who became the iconic evil traitor in English lore. Elizabeth made naval strength a high priority. The Navy yards were leaders in technical innovation, and the captains devised new tactics. Parker argues that the full-rigged ship was one of the greatest technological advances of the century and permanently transformed naval warfare. In English shipwrights introduced designs, first demonstrated in the "Dreadnaught", that allowed the ships to sail faster and maneuver better and permitted heavier guns. When Spain finally decided to invade and conquer England it was a fiasco. Moreover, the poor design of the Spanish cannons meant they were much slower in reloading in a close-range battle. Spain and France still had stronger fleets, but England was catching up. He argues that the Spanish army was larger, more experienced, better-equipped, more confident, and had better financing. The English defenses, on the other hand, were thin and outdated; England had too few soldiers and they were at best only partially trained. Parker adds that a Catholic uprising in the north and in Ireland could have brought total defeat. English colonial empire The discoveries of Christopher Columbus electrified all of western Europe, especially maritime powers like England. Cabot sailed in and reached Newfoundland. Spain was well established in the Americas, while Portugal, in union with Spain from , had an ambitious global empire in Africa, Asia and South America. France was exploring North America. Combined with his daring raids against the Spanish and his great victory over them at Cadiz in , he became a famous hero [22] [23] "his exploits are still celebrated" but England did not follow up on his claims. Raleigh and Elizabeth sought both immediate riches and a base for privateers to raid the Spanish treasure fleets. Raleigh sent others to found the Roanoke Colony ; it remains a mystery why the settlers all disappeared. It established trading posts, which in later centuries evolved into British India , on the coasts of what is now India and Bangladesh. Torture was rare, since the English legal system reserved torture only for capital crimes like treason [28] "though forms of corporal punishment, some of them extreme, were practised. The persecution of witches began in , and hundreds were executed, although there was nothing like the frenzy on the Continent. This was in significant contrast to previous and succeeding eras of marked religious violence. Her desire to moderate the religious persecutions of previous Tudor reigns " the persecution of Catholics under Edward VI, and of Protestants under Mary I " appears to have had a moderating effect on English society. She was not able to get an unmarried clergy or the Protestant Holy Communion celebrated to look like a Mass, Haigh, op. The Injunctions of forbade any doctrines that did not conform to the teaching of the Church Fathers and the Catholic Bishops. Almost no original theological thought came out of the English Reformation: The preservation of many Catholic doctrines and practices was the cuckoo's nest that eventually resulted in the formation of the Via Media during the 17th century, Diarmaid MacCullough, *The Later Reformation in England*, , , pp. She spent the rest of her

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reign ferociously fending of radical reformers and Roman Catholics who wanted to modify the Settlement of Church affairs: The Church of England was Protestant, "with its peculiar arrested development in Protestant terms, and the ghost which it harboured of an older world of Catholic traditions and devotional practice," MacCullough, p. For a number of years refrained from persecuting Catholics because she was against Catholicism, not her Catholic subjects if they made no trouble. In , Pope Pius V declared Elizabeth a heretic who was not the legitimate queen and that her subjects no longer owed her obedience. The pope sent Jesuits and seminarians to secretly evangelize and support Catholics. After several plots to overthrow her, Catholic clergy were mostly considered to be traitors, and were pursued aggressively in England. Often priests were tortured or executed after capture unless they cooperated with the English authorities. People who publicly supported Catholicism were excluded from the professions; sometimes fined or imprisoned. Lacking a dominant genius or a formal structure for research the following century had both Sir Isaac Newton and the Royal Society , the Elizabethan era nonetheless saw significant scientific progress. The astronomers Thomas Digges and Thomas Harriot made important contributions; William Gilbert published his seminal study of magnetism, *De Magnete*, in Substantial advancements were made in the fields of cartography and surveying. The eccentric but influential John Dee also merits mention. Much of this scientific and technological progress related to the practical skill of navigation. English achievements in exploration were noteworthy in the Elizabethan era. Sir Francis Drake circumnavigated the globe between and , and Martin Frobisher explored the Arctic. The first attempt at English settlement of the eastern seaboard of North America occurred in this eraâ€”the abortive colony at Roanoke Island in While Elizabethan England is not thought of as an age of technological innovation, some progress did occur. Coaches quickly became as fashionable as sports cars in a later century; social critics, especially Puritan commentators, noted the "diverse great ladies" who rode "up and down the countryside" in their new coaches. Health and diet in Elizabethan England Although home to only a small part of the population the Tudor municipalities were overcrowded and unhygienic. Most towns were unpaved with poor public sanitation. There were no sewers or drains, and rubbish was simply abandoned in the street. Animals such as rats thrived in these conditions. In larger towns and cities, such as London, common diseases arising from lack of sanitation included smallpox , measles , malaria , typhus , diphtheria , Scarlet fever , and chickenpox. The reason for the speedy spread of the disease was the increase of rats infected by fleas carrying the disease. Their homes were, as in earlier centuries, thatched huts with one or two rooms, although later on during this period, roofs were also tiled. Furniture was basic, with stools being commonplace rather than chairs. The daub was usually then painted with limewash , making it white, and the wood was painted with black tar to prevent rotting, but not in Tudor times; the Victorians did this afterwards. The bricks were handmade and thinner than modern bricks. The wooden beams were cut by hand, which makes telling the difference between Tudor houses and Tudor-style houses easy, as the original beams are not straight. The upper floors of Tudor houses were often larger than the ground floors, which would create an overhang or jetty. This would create more floor-surface above while also keeping maximum street width. During the Tudor period, the use of glass when building houses was first used, and became widespread. It was very expensive and difficult to make, so the panes were made small and held together with a lead lattice, in casement windows. People who could not afford glass often used polished horn, cloth or paper. Tudor chimneys were tall, thin, and often decorated with symmetrical patterns of molded or cut brick. Early Tudor houses, and the homes of poorer people, did not have chimneys. The smoke in these cases would be let out through a simple hole in the roof. Mansions had many chimneys for the many fireplaces required to keep the vast rooms warm. These fires were also the only way of cooking food. Wealthy Tudor homes needed many rooms, where a large number of guests and servants could be accommodated, fed and entertained. Wealth was demonstrated by the extensive use of glass. Windows became the main feature of Tudor mansions, and were often a fashion statement. Mansions were often designed to a symmetrical plan; "E" and "H" shapes were popular. Poor Law A woodcut from circa depicting a vagrant being punished in the streets in Tudor England. About one-third of the population lived in poverty, with the wealthy expected to give alms to assist the

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impotent poor. Those who left their parishes in order to locate work were termed vagabonds and could be subjected to punishments, including whipping and putting at the stocks. Until then, few children went to school. Boys were allowed to go to school and began at the age of 4, they then moved to grammar school when they were 7 years old. Girls were either kept at home by their parents to help with housework or sent out to work to bring money in for the family. They were not sent to school. Boys were educated for work and the girls for marriage and running a household so when they married they could look after the house and children. Many Tudor towns and villages had a parish school where the local vicar taught boys to read and write. Brothers could teach their sisters these skills. At school, pupils were taught English, Latin, Greek, catechism and arithmetic. There were few books, so pupils read from hornbooks instead. There were two types of school in Tudor times: The school day started at 7: Petty schools had shorter hours, mostly to allow poorer boys the opportunity to work as well. Schools were harsh and teachers were very strict, often beating pupils who misbehaved. Only the most wealthy people allowed their daughters to be taught, and only at home. During this time, endowed schooling became available. This meant that even boys of very poor families were able to attend school if they were not needed to work at home, but only in a few localities were funds available to provide support as well as the necessary education scholarship. During the reign of Edward VI many free grammar schools were set up to take in non-fee paying students.

Chapter 6 : Full text of "English literature during the lifetime of Shakespeare"

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Chapter 7 : Elizabethan era - Wikipedia

William Shakespeare (baptized on April 26, to April 23,) was an English playwright, actor and poet also known as the "Bard of Avon" and often called England's national poet.

Chapter 8 : Shakespeare's Influence on English Literature - Research Paper Example : theinnatdunvill

William Shakespeare (26 April (baptised) - 23 April) was an English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's pre-eminent dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon".

Chapter 9 : Shakespeare Resource Center - Elizabethan England

The King James Version had a profound influence on religious and political issues as well as on the literature of that time, especially on Shakespeare. During the reign of James I Shakespeare produced some of his major plays such as Othello, King Lear, Macbeth, Antony and Cleopatra and The Tempest.