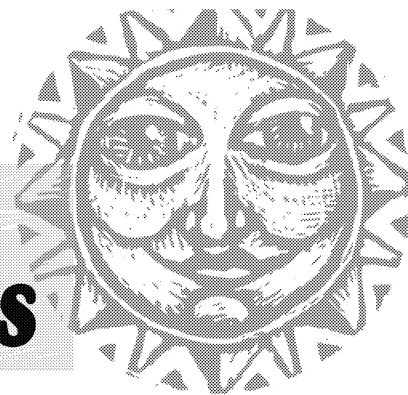
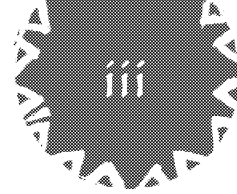


Daily *warm-ups*



SHAKESPEARE

J. WESTON
WALCH
PUBLISHER
Portland, Maine



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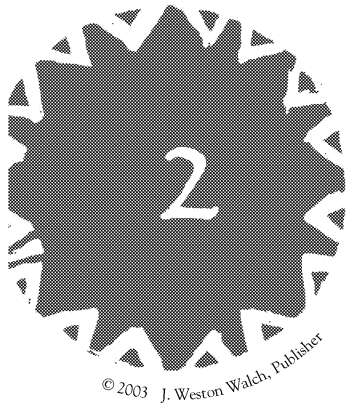
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William Shakespeare had to draw an audience for his plays. He chose the titles so that people would know what to expect. He wrote three types of plays: comedies, tragedies, and histories.

Based on the title or what you may already know about the play, match each title below to its type and briefly explain your choices.

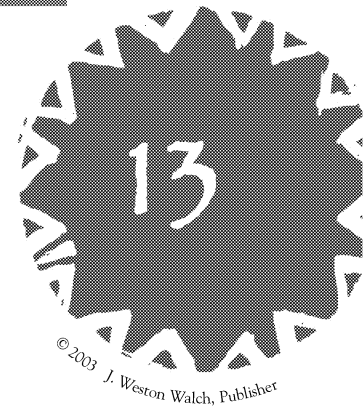
- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| ___ 1. <i>As You Like It</i> | a. tragedy |
| ___ 2. <i>Romeo and Juliet</i> | b. history |
| ___ 3. <i>King Richard III</i> | c. comedy |





For the plots of his plays, Shakespeare often used stories from Greek and Roman mythology, events in English history, or legends from continental Europe. He also “borrowed” the plots of plays that had been written by others. Sometimes these plays were many years old, but occasionally he adapted contemporary pieces. For example, although the story of *Hamlet* comes from an old Danish legend, it already existed in a stage version when Shakespeare took up the story. In fact, some have said that Shakespeare was lucky the concept of plagiarism did not yet exist.

How do you feel about Shakespeare’s “borrowing” the ideas of others? Do you feel it lessens his work? In the space below, explain your opinion.



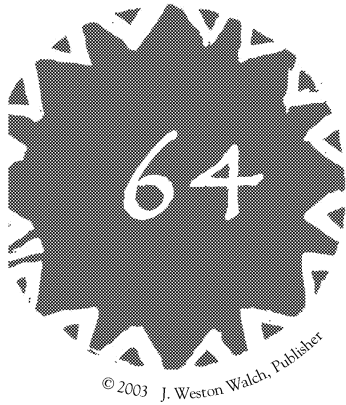
Entertainment in Queen Elizabeth's court was, of course, non-electronic. Songs, poems, and dances were created and shared with all. There were elaborate pageants and living pictures called *tableaux vivants*. The ability to compose and perform vocal or instrumental music was part of a noble person's education.

In the space below, write a paragraph about the importance of music in your life and in your society. What is its value? Should it be as basic to public school education as language arts and math? Why?



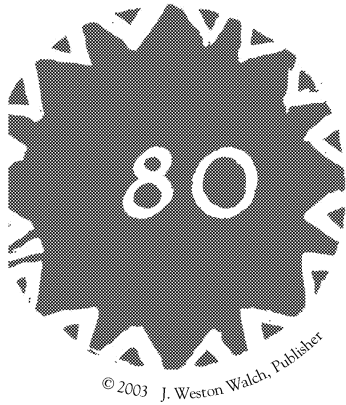
A fierce and longstanding feud between their two families makes Romeo and Juliet's love story complicated and ultimately tragic. The Montagues and Capulets live in the same city and constantly fight with each other. As a result, many characters in the play are killed.

Think about a feud—an ongoing battle—you know about. It might be between individuals or families. Write an essay about how it started and what kept it going. How might it end? What are people really fighting about in a feud?

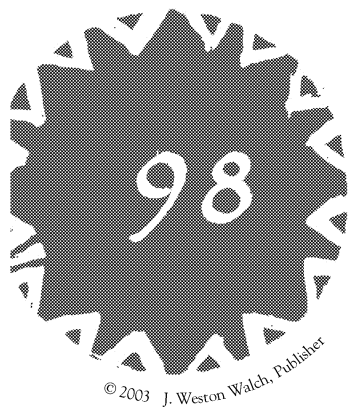


You are a **graphic designer** for a theater company, and your latest assignment is a poster for the production of *Romeo and Juliet*. The elements of the play offer exciting possibilities: passionate lovers, savage swordfights, tyrannical parents, a masked ball, a priest, a secret marriage, sleeping potions, daggers, poisons, and tombs.

Sketch the poster below, including the drawings and captions.



Memorize one of Shakespeare's sonnets. Recite it, and illustrate a poster that graphically depicts the poem. Sketch the poster below.

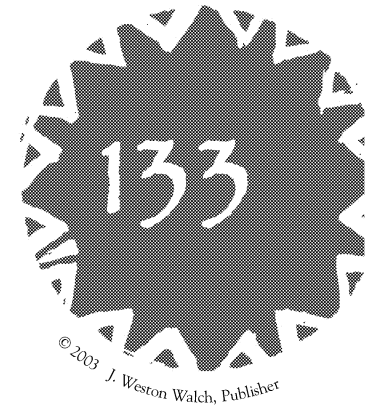




I will speak daggers to her.

Hamlet, Act 3, scene 2

Read the line above and think about what it means. Then describe a person (famous, known to you, or fictional) who might say such a thing, and explain why he or she might say it.



A little pot is soon hot.

The Taming of the Shrew, Act 4, scene 1

Read the line above and think about what it means. Then describe a person (famous, known to you, or fictional) to whom you would like to say these words.

