

YEAR 8 TERM 3 **(half term 2)** KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: Shakespeare’s Villains

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KEY TERMINOLOGY

**Alliteration:** A sequence of repeated letter use at the start of words close to each other

**Dramatic irony**: This occurs when the audience know more about what is happening that some of the characters themselves know

**Hyperbole:** A figure of speech that relies on exaggeration

**Oxymoron:** A figure of speech in which contrasting terms are brought together E.g. ‘sweet sorrow’

**Poetic verse:** A style of speech in Shakespeare’s plays using rhyming couplets and a strong rhythmic pulse to the line

**Pun: a play on words:** two different meanings are drawn out of a single word

**Simile:** A figure of speech in which one thing is compared to another, indicated by ‘like’ or ‘as’

**Soliloquy:** A dramatic convention which allows a character in a play to speak directly to the audience-as if thinking aloud about motives, feelings and decisions

**Metaphor** – A figure of speech saying something IS something else

**Context in Shakespeare’s England that is reflected in his plays**

**Women**. In **Elizabethan** times **women** belonged to their fathers (or their brothers if their father died), and then to their husbands. **Women** could not own property of their own and had very little power. They were expected to obey men and were not considered intelligent. **Gender roles** during the **Elizabethan era were** clearly defined, with **men** reigning superior over women. **Men** really had such great influence over women as women were seen as physically and mentally weak. While a man went out to work, a woman at that time was only expected to keep the hearth – to stay at home and manage the household duties in the family.

Religion. Almost everyone in England in Shakespeare’s day was Christian. Everyone would go to church on a Sunday, or even more often. Most people believed in Hell as a very real place, and that the Devil was a specific person.

Anti-Semitism. There was a lot of prejudice against Jews. This is reflected in The Merchant of Venice which features a law case between a Jew and a Christian at its centre. The case is settled with the Jew being punished by being forcibly converted to Christianity.

CONVENTIONS OF WRITING A SPEECH

Greet your audience – how you do this is dictated by who the audience is

Introduce yourself

Introduce the topic of your speech

Give the body of your speech – ensure it is the right level of formality for your audience and fits the purpose.

Signal you are coming to your final point

Thank your audience for listening

Ask if there are any questions

Iambic Pentameter

There are ten syllables to each line and the rhythm itself is like a drumbeat (ti-dum, ti-dum, ti-dum, ti-dum, ti-dum)?

*Now is the winter of our discontent
Made glorious summer by this sun of York.
(Richard, Act 1 Scene 1)*

Prose

Normal speech with **no** pattern

If a noble character speaking in prose in Shakespeare or a lowborn character speaking in verse, it’s a clue that there is something unusual is happening.