

## BBC Learning English – Shakespeare

### About this script

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### 关于台词的备注:

请注意这不是广播节目的逐字稿件。本文稿可能没有体现录制、编辑过程中对节目做出的改变。

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### **Shakespeare the Wordsmith** 造词大师

*O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend  
The brightest heaven of invention,  
A kingdom for a stage, princes to act  
And monarchs to behold the swelling scene!*

Li: Hello everyone, 欢迎收听了解莎士比亚的第 7 辑。我是杨莉。

William: And I'm William Kremer. Today we're going to be looking at Shakespeare the Wordsmith.

Li: Shakespeare the Wordsmith – a wordsmith 意思是擅长创新词新语的人，造词大师。用 wordsmith 来称呼莎士比亚是非常准确的。因为牛津英语字典中的 1700 个词条都来自莎士比亚的戏剧和诗歌。

William: Yes, we can say that Shakespeare coined many words and phrases. That means he invented those words and phrases – he coined them. Now, we're going to hear from a real expert about this topic. Professor David Crystal has published over 100 books on the English language and linguistics, and they include several on Shakespeare. His book Shakespeare's Words has also been made into a successful website – shakespearewords.com.

Li: 柯·威廉 前不久通过电话采访了著名语言学家大卫·克里斯多尔。下面我们将播放部分录音，万一有听不懂的地方，也不要着急，因为节目的后半部，我们还要做重点讲解。柯·威廉首先请 David Crystal 介绍一下他曾为环形剧院从事的特殊咨询工作。请大家注意听看看那到底是什么工作呢？

William: Professor David Crystal, you've done some interesting work with the Globe theatre. Could you tell us a little bit about that?

David: Well the Globe theatre on the Southbank in London has always prided itself on going in for original practices. And so what they did in 2004 was a production of Romeo and Juliet and then one again in 2005 of Troilus and Cressida, where the actors were taught to reproduce the words of the plays in as close an approximation to original Shakespearean pronunciation as you can get. And I was involved in working out what that pronunciation was and helping them to get to it. Let me give you an example of how it sounds. Here's the first few lines of the chorus speech to Henry V, spoken first of all in a modern accent:

O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend  
The brightest heaven of invention,

A kingdom for a stage, princes to act  
And monarchs to behold the swelling scene!

Now in Shakespearean pronunciation, it would have been something more like this:

O for a Muse of fire, that would ascend  
The brightest heaven of invention,  
A kingdom for a stage, princes to act  
And monarchs to behold the swelling scene!

... all sounding very different from the accents that we're used to today.

William: I've had a look at your website [shakespeareswords.com](http://shakespeareswords.com) and you've got there the list from the Oxford English Dictionary of words which people think were created by Shakespeare or coined by Shakespeare. I've had a look at the list and I was quite surprised by some of the words that I saw, words like published and well-behaved, assassination, accused... Did Shakespeare really invent all these words or is he just the first documented user of them?

David: Well in an awful lot of cases it is certainly the case that all we've got here is the first documented use of a particular word. But it's when you get words that are a little out of the ordinary that you begin to think "Ay ay... I don't think there's, it's an everyday word here, we're doing something special".

William: Right.

David: And it's when you get these phrases like 'well-behaved' and 'well-beloved' and so on where there's obviously an attempt at expressing a more complex notion. But the words that impressed me more than anything else are the coinages, when he uses a word like, a prefix like 'un'...

William: Right.

David: ...for instance, and he puts it in front of verbs where you would normally never expect to express that notion, to 'unshout' or to 'uncurse'... "unshout the noise that banished Martius". Well you can't 'unshout'; once you've shouted, you can't not shout, and that suggests somebody who's actually constructed that word in order to make an effect.

Li: Hmm... to unshout. 这恐怕就是莎翁首创但没有人效仿使用的三百多词汇之一吧。

William: Yes, English is quite a creative language really and it's OK to coin a new word or a new phrase sometimes. But of course it's important that the person you're speaking to understands what you mean!

Li: 是的，这世界上啊，可不是只有莎士比亚一个人能创造新词儿。听听我的同事柯·威廉的一次办公室调查就明白了。

## **Insert**

- William: So I'm standing in the BBC Learning English offices and I'm going to ask some of my colleagues what words don't exist in English that they think should exist.*
- Catherine: Well when I got up this morning I looked out of the window and it was very sunny and then when I left my house it was very cold and I found I wasn't dressed properly and I realised that we don't have a word in English to describe sunny but cold or hot but windy so my idea is for a word which is 'seezy' and that means sunny and breezy together.*
- Callum: Well it's not one of my own but it's one that I heard and I think it's something you can do with particular genres of film and entertainment. And you could talk about a film being 'issuetainment', so it's a film that's on an issue, a social issue but it's also a film for entertainment so it's 'issuetainment' and if it's a very good film you could say it's "issuetainment at its most issuetastic".*
- Emily: One I've just invented this very second is 'smasual' for smart and casual.*
- William: Ah, very good, so can you give me a sentence using smasual?*
- Emily: I'm going to a smasual party tonight.*
- William: And what kind of clothes are you going to wear?*
- Emily: Smart/casual, 'smasual' clothes.*
- Kaz: I think there are so many words missing in the English language to do with for example, taste, emotions, how you feel towards people and also for the weather.*
- William: So could you invent a word which you would, you might use to describe your feelings towards me?*
- Kaz: Shloppy ...shloppy.*
- William: It sounds a little bit like sloppy which I don't like...*
- Li: Wow, what a creative bunch of people our colleagues are!*
- William: Er maybe Li, I'm not sure about that! Remember that you can download the pdf transcript from this programme if you want to examine those words in a little bit more detail.*
- Li: 我不知道当你称呼一个陌生人为shloppy的时候, 他会做出什么反应, 说不定她会认为你有点毛病。好了William, 我们还是继续听听你和 David Crystal 电话采访录音的第二部分吧。William 问 David 对于学英语的人来说要了解莎士比亚, 有什么好办法吗?*
- William: Can I ask you finally about what the best way for a learner of English to approach Shakespeare would be? I mean, first of all, do you think it's really absolutely necessary for people to read Shakespeare in English? Do you think they can appreciate it in their own language or do you think they definitely should try to read it in the original language?*

David: Oh I think they should try to read it in the original. But Shakespeare didn't write his plays to be read; Shakespeare wrote his plays to be acted. And anybody who goes to see a Shakespeare play just enjoys the experience. The fact that it's a difficult piece of language doesn't matter. For example, if I say to you, using some Shakespearean language, that you're a "super-serviceable finical rogue", then you might not know what super-serviceable or finical means, but you know I'm not being very pleasant to you.

William: OK, Professor David Crystal, thank you very much for joining me today.

David: Yeah well. Hope it's useful to you.

William: So we've been talking today about words that Shakespeare coined but don't forget that he also created many very useful and very beautiful phrases. So let's listen to this week's S Words programme.

### S Words:

PRES: (轻声地) 大家好欢迎收听莎翁名言,sssh! 你想知道一个秘密吗? 不过你要保证不外传。我上学的时候最恨阅读莎士比亚了, 可是现在我却在这里大谈大论 Shakespeare, 真是难以思议, 是吧? 不过你可不能把这个秘密告诉任何人。Mum's the word 用莎士比亚的原话说就是 give no words but mum:

Hume: *Hume must make merry with the duchess' gold;  
Marry, and shall. But how now, Sir John Hume!  
Seal up your lips, and give no words but mum:  
The business asketh silent secrecy*

PRES: 刚才这段话来自历史剧亨利六世第二部 Henry VI Part II. John Hume 这个人物在自言自语, 他有一个狡猾的计划所以他提醒他自己不要告诉任何人。他说: Seal up your lips 把嘴封起来, 一句话都不说 give no words but mum.

Hume: *Hume must make merry with the duchess' gold;  
Marry, and shall. But how now, Sir John Hume!  
Seal up your lips, and give no words but mum:  
The business asketh silent secrecy*

PRES: Give no words but mum 不过随着时间的推移, 如今这个成语变成了 mum's the word, mum's the word - 意思就是别把秘密告诉别人, 别声张。这个短语和 mum 母亲这个英语单词没有任何关系。仅仅表示当一个人紧闭着嘴唇时所能发出的声音 mmm hmmm mmm hmmm mmm.

Hmmm mmm mmm mmmm hmmm:

### Insert

Woman: *Guess what?*

Woman 2: *What?*

Woman: *Helen's pregnant!*

Woman 2: *Really?*

Woman: *Yeah, she told me this lunch time. But she hasn't told the boss yet so mum's the word.*

Woman 2: *OK.*

- Man:** *Mum's the word but I wasn't really sick yesterday. I was at a job interview.*
- PRES:** Hmm. Mmm. Mmm mmmmh mmm.
- 那再好不过了。下周我们会讲解更多 Shakespeare 对英语语言贡献的经典名句。  
Until then... mum's the word!
- Hume:** *Seal up your lips, and give no words but mum:  
The business asketh silent secrecy*
- Li:** 欢迎继续收听莎士比亚特别系列造词大师，接下来我们将回顾一下前面录音的重点部分。快播放我们最中意的文艺复兴主题乐吧。
- William:** First of all, did you hear what David was doing at the Globe Theatre?
- David...** ...the actors were taught to reproduce the words of the plays in as close an approximation to original Shakespearean pronunciation as you can get. And I was involved in working out what that pronunciation was and helping them to get to it.
- William:** David was working out what the original Shakespearean pronunciation was so that actors at the Globe could try using it.
- Li:** 节目开始我们说过莎士比亚创造了1700个左右的英语单词，不过，真是如此吗？
- David:** Well in an awful lot of cases it is certainly the case is that all we've got here is the first documented use of a particular word. But it's when you get words that are a little out of the ordinary that you begin to think "Ay ay... I don't think there's, it's an everyday word here, we're doing something special".
- Li:** 这么说很多词语并不是莎士比亚创造的，而是首先由他通过文字使用的first documented use 首次文字记载的。不过有些词语太古怪了out of the ordinary 很不寻常的，这些词嘛就成为了莎士比亚式的词语。
- William:** We heard from our colleague Callum the new word issuetainment. What two words inspired this new coinage?
- Callum:** *And you could talk about a film being 'issuetainment', so it's a film that's on an issue, a social issue but it's also a film for entertainment so it's 'issuetainment' and if it's a very good film you could say it's "issuetainment at its most issuetastic".*
- William:** The words issue and entertainment together make a new word – issuetainment.
- Li:** Issuetainment at its most issuetastic!
- William:** Well I hope you've enjoyed this focus on Shakespeare's language.
- Li:** 下周将是这套系列节目的最后一个章节了。我们将前往伦敦的环形剧院，实地采访一组表演系的年轻大学生们，他们说表演莎士比亚可以改变一个人，怎样改变呢？

William: Join us then to find out!

Both: Bye.

