LITERATURE

Shakespeare and Cervantes.

1 Write.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>William Shakespeare ...</th>
<th>Miguel de Cervantes ...</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon</td>
<td>was born in 1547 in Alcalá de Henares</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wrote novels, plays and poetry</td>
<td>wrote Don Quixote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>was a professional actor</td>
<td>wrote Romeo and Juliet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>died in 1616</td>
<td>wrote 37 plays and poetry</td>
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</table>

2 Write the names of the plays.

Julius Caesar  Romeo and Juliet  Hamlet

1 __________________________
This play is about a young prince. This prince is the son of the dead King of Denmark. This is a very long play and includes the famous line ‘To be or not to be, that is the question.’ Shakespeare wrote this tragedy in about 1601.

2 __________________________
This play is one of Shakespeare’s Roman plays. The story is about a powerful Roman dictator. Marcus Brutus kills the dictator because he is too powerful. At the end of the play Brutus dies also. Shakespeare wrote this tragedy in about 1599.

3 __________________________
This play is about two enemy families in Verona: the Montagues and the Capulets. A young man from the Montague family is in love with a young woman from the Capulet family. Shakespeare wrote this tragedy in about 1595.

3 Complete the text with the words in the box.

poison  die  love  marry  secret  party  hate

The play Romeo and Juliet is a tragedy. Two families, the Montagues and the Capulets, (1) _______ each other. Romeo Montague meets Juliet Capulet at a (2) _______. They are teenagers and they fall in (3) _______. The two lovers decide to (4) _______. Their families don’t know about their plans. Romeo and Juliet marry in (5) _______. But later someone tells Romeo that Juliet is dead. Romeo drinks some (6) _______ and dies. But Juliet is not really dead. When Juliet wakes up and sees Romeo dead, she kills herself. So in the end Romeo and Juliet both (7) _______.

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Aim
• To introduce the pupils to Shakespeare and Cervantes. To learn about some of Shakespeare’s plays.

Language focus
Key vocabulary: play, poetry, novel, actor, tragedy.

Key language: William Shakespeare was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon. Miguel de Cervantes wrote Don Quixote. William Shakespeare died in 1616. This play is about a young prince. Irregular verb: write/wrote.

Materials
• Worksheet.
• Examples of different types of books: biographies, novels, poems and plays.

Warm-up
• Show the pupils some books and tell them what kind of books they are, eg, This is a biography. It’s about _____’s life. Tell the pupils about your reading habits, eg, I read one or two books a month. In summer I read more because I have got more time to read. I read on the beach or at the swimming pool. I like novels, plays and poetry. Talk about the different types of books and elicit some information about the pupils’ own reading habits.

Completing the Worksheet

Activity 1
• Elicit the names of some famous writers and write them on the board. Ask the pupils if they know where they are from and the names of some of their books, British and Irish writers: Charles Dickens (Oliver Twist), Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (Sherlock Holmes), Agatha Christie (Murder on the Orient Express), James Joyce (Ulysses).
• If the pupils don’t mention them, write William Shakespeare and Miguel de Cervantes on the board. Elicit information about them from the class. Ask questions such as Who was Shakespeare? What country was he from? What did he write?
• Ask the pupils to read the information in the box in Activity 1. Encourage them to write the information in what they think is the appropriate place under William Shakespeare or Miguel de Cervantes. Check answers with the class. Tell the class that Shakespeare and Cervantes died the same year (1616). Explain that they were both writers. William Shakespeare was English and Miguel de Cervantes was Spanish. Shakespeare wrote plays and poetry. He is famous for plays such as Romeo and Juliet, Macbeth, Hamlet and Othello. Cervantes wrote novels, plays and poetry. His novel Don Quixote is very famous. People often say that Don Quixote was the first modern novel.

Answers: William Shakespeare ... was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon; ... wrote Romeo and Juliet; ... was a professional actor; ... wrote 37 plays and poetry; ... died in 1616. Miguel de Cervantes ... was born in 1547 in Alcalá de Henares; ... wrote novels, plays and poetry; ... wrote Don Quixote; ... died in 1616.

Extension activity
Bring a pupil to the front of the class. Ask him or her questions about the information in Activity 1. Try to elicit full answers. Who wrote Romeo and Juliet? Shakespeare wrote Romeo and Juliet. Who was born in Stratford-upon-Avon? Shakespeare was born in Stratford-upon-Avon. Who wrote Don Quixote? Cervantes wrote Don Quixote. Encourage the pupils to continue in small groups using Who _____?

Activity 2
• Explain that Shakespeare wrote many tragedies. Tragedies are sad stories where people die. Sometimes they die for love and sometimes they die for power. Write on the board the titles of the three plays in Activity 2: Julius Caesar, Romeo and Juliet and Hamlet. Elicit what the pupils know about these stories. Ask questions such as Which story is about love? Romeo
and Juliet. Which story is about power? Julius Caesar. Which story is about royalty (kings, queens, princes and princesses)? Hamlet.

• Tell the pupils to look at Activity 2. Read the first text with the class. Encourage the pupils to call out the name of the play. Continue with texts 2 and 3.

• Write on the board some of the key words in Activity 2, eg, Montagues, Capulets, two enemy families, a young man, a young woman, love, a young prince, King of Denmark, Roman, dictator, powerful. Explain that Romeo and Juliet is about a young man and a young woman who fall in love. Their families are enemies so their love is secret. It’s a sad story about love. Julius Caesar is about a powerful Roman leader called Julius Caesar. Marcus Brutus doesn’t want Julius to have so much power and kills him. At the end of the story Brutus kills himself. It’s a story about power. Hamlet is a story about royalty and power. There is also a ghost in the story.

• Pupils write the names of the plays in the appropriate spaces.

Answers: 1-Hamlet; 2-Julius Caesar; 3-Romeo and Juliet

Activity 3

• Write Romeo and Juliet on the board. Give the class some more information about the play and elicit ideas by asking questions, eg, Romeo and Juliet are in love. Their families are enemies. What can they do? Their love is secret, it’s a sad story. What do you think happens?

• Go through the words in the box in Activity 3 and explain their meaning. Elicit the connections between the words and the play Romeo and Juliet. Ask the pupils to read the story in small groups and complete the story with the words in the box. Help with vocabulary as necessary. When they have finished, read the story with the class and encourage the pupils to call out the missing words.

• Ask the class What do you think about the story? Do you like it?

Answers: 1-hate; 2-party; 3-love; 4-marry; 5-secret; 6-poison; 7-die