

## LESSON II:

## OUTLINING "SHAKESPEARE'S LONDON" FOR READY REFERENCE

1. What historic event took place at about the same time as Shakespeare's arrival in London? 1585-1592  
the Spanish Armada
2. What effect did that event have on the English people? they were extremely  
nationalistic & wanted to know England's history
3. Why was that effect to Shakespeare's advantage? Several of his plays were  
about England's past kings & history
4. What advantage was it to the young playwright that England had embarked on an age of exploration and that London had become a center of trade? He was able to learn about  
foreign lands & then write about them.
5. How do you suppose Shakespeare gained his knowledge of the French language? Through the  
University of London & the Renaissance
6. How did the Renaissance affect people's viewpoint of destiny or fate? they believed they  
had more personal choice/freedom
7. Why did people put so much emphasis on skillful use of language? it set man apart  
from animals.
8. What role did Queen Elizabeth and her successor, James I, play in the life of Shakespeare and his fellow actors? She paid money for costumes & props
9. Name three early theaters. The Globe, the Theater, the Swan
10. Name three ways in which the presentation of plays in Elizabethan times differed from presentation today.  
1) minimal sets      2) boys took female parts  
3) minimal props      4) elaborate costumes
11. List at least five requirements for Elizabethan actors. 1) good memory    2) strong voice  
3) fencing      4) dancing    5) good singing voice