

# Rewrite the following sentence making it sound “Shakespearean.”

- “I ate the sandwich.”
- You must use only the words in the sentence.
- You cannot add words.
- See how many varieties you can make.
- NOTE: If you have a quiz to make up, you need to do it today.

# The inverted sentence



- I ate the sandwich.
- I the sandwich ate.
- Ate the sandwich I.
- Ate I the sandwich.
- The sandwich I ate.
- The sandwich ate I.

# Syntax Inversion



- Create specific dramatic and poetic effects
- Emphasize key words
- To create specific poetic rhythms
- To give a character a specific speech pattern
  
- Strategy: Experienced readers “re-order” the words to understand the sentence. They locate the subject and the verb and “re-write” the sentence for clarity.

# Contractions in Shakespeare

- 'tis = it is
- ope = open
- o'er = over
- gi' = give
- ne'er = never
- i' = in
- e'er = ever
- oft = often
- a' = he
- e'en = even

**Strategy:** Remember these words as you read. Most of the time it is just a matter of placing the missing letters back in the word. If need be, keep a list of these handy.

# Tips to Aide in Reading



- ❑ Read the summary of the scene before reading the scene.
- ❑ Be prepared to re-read and remember that no one understands everything about Shakespeare (or any good text) on the first, second, or even tenth reading.
- ❑ Don't begrudge the difficulty of the language—the language is the point
- ❑ Remember that it's a play, so try to visualize it. Read the parts aloud, perhaps even “do the police in different voices” (i.e. assign a vocal style to each character).

# ELEMENTS OF CLASSICAL GREEK TRAGEDY



# The Tragic Hero



- A great person of noble stature who has a tragic flaw that brings about his/her downfall

# Tragic Flaw



- Tragic Flaw—Weakness of character, some **moral blindness**, or error causes total reversal of fortune for the tragic hero as he is brought to his/her knees
  - ▣ Tragic flaw can be and is often some aspect of the tragic hero that is admirable but taken to extreme, cause the downfall of the hero
- “Hamartia”

# Fate



- Fate—The notion that what will happen is destined to happen regardless of what we as humans do to alter our lives.
- Fate is usually seen as a paradox because it is an issue that has no answer or resolution.

# The Stages of the tragic plot



- Reversal: Story suddenly reverses. The reversal might even seem like good news at first.
- Recognition: When the tragic hero realizes he/she has taken part in some horrible event or secret
- Suffering: A destructive or painful act that might occur as a response to recognition

# Dramatic Irony



- Dramatic irony--the words and actions of the characters of a work of literature have a different meaning for the reader than they do for the characters because aspects of the characters' fate has been revealed to the reader beforehand.
- This is the result of the reader having a greater knowledge than the characters themselves.

# Why?



- Why would ancient audiences want to watch the destruction of a person play out?
  - ▣ Catharsis—Some scholars believe tragedy first raises (it does not create) the emotions of pity and fear, then purifies or purges them

# NHS



- Who is working the Fall Festival at IS?
- Induction ceremony next Thursday, November 17: Who is bringing what?
- Fees/Dues?
- Larger service projects?