

Name _____

Date _____

Shakespeare - Answer Key

Read each question and circle the correct answer.

1. William Shakespeare was

- A. a king in 16th century England.
- ☒ C. a major playwright, poet and actor in 16th century England.
- B. the author of the movie *The Lion King*.
- D. the architect who planned the construction of the Globe Theatre.

2. What topic are Shakespeare's comedies typically about?

- ☒ A. love
- C. revenge
- B. death
- D. scorpions

3. A characteristic of Shakespeare's {} is a hero character who has a flaw that leads to his downfall.

- A. comedies
- ☒ B. tragedies
- C. histories
- D. long poems

4. Shakespeare's {} are about England's kings.

- A. comedies
- ☒ C. histories
- B. tragedies
- D. long poems

5. Which of the following is true about Shakespeare's plays?

- A. They do not include any figurative language.
- C. They are all about the same single topic.
- ☒ D. They are written partially in rhyme.
- B. They are not widely read or relevant today.

6. Read the following lines that the character Romeo says in *Romeo and Juliet*. In these lines, what is Romeo comparing Juliet to?

But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun. Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon, Who is already sick and pale with grief, That thou, her maid, art far more fair than she.

- A. a window
☒ B. the sun
C. the moon
D. a sick person

7. Read the following lines that a group of witches say in *Macbeth*. What do these lines let the audience know that Macbeth is going to do?

Double double toil and trouble; Fire burn and cauldron bubble.

- A. catch fire
B. meet someone who looks like him
☒ C. struggle a lot
D. buy a cauldron

8. Which of the following statements about Shakespeare is true?

- ☒ A. He is thought to have died on his birthday.
B. He did not think it was appropriate to create new phrases.
C. He is still alive.
D. He was not very prolific.

9. Shakespeare invented the phrase "Love is {}."

- A. nice
B. overrated
C. quiet
☒ D. blind

10. Which of the following words did Shakespeare invent?

- A. fashionable
B. gnarled
C. swagger
☒ D. all of the above