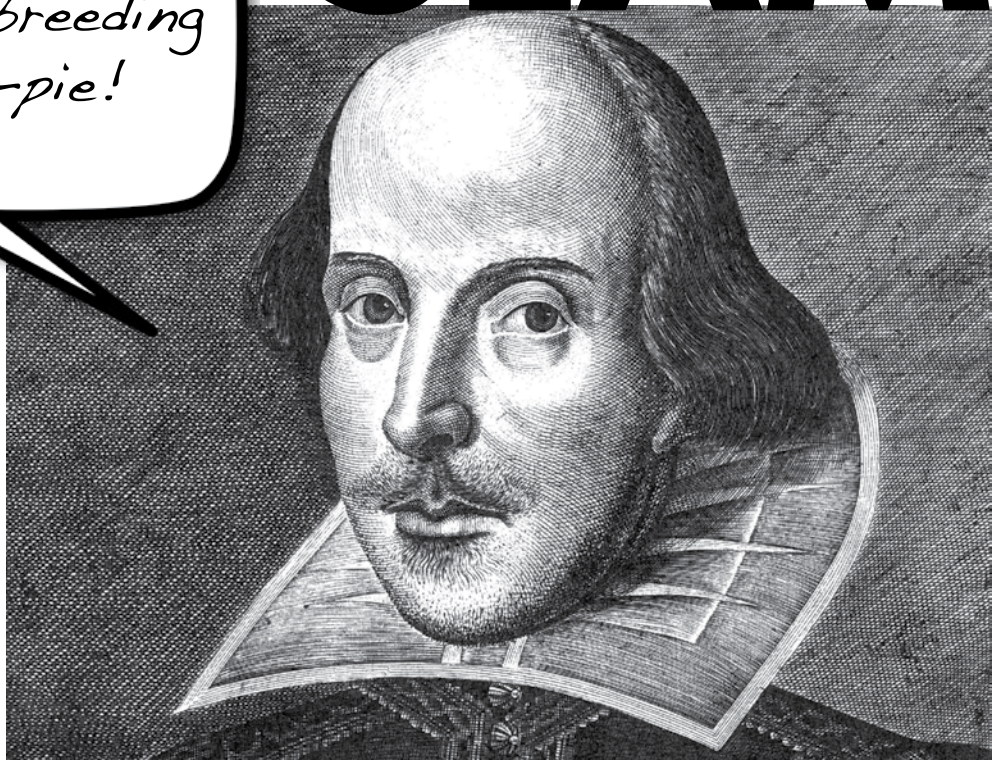


SHAKESPEAREAN SLAM

*Thou art a
reeky, ill-breeding
maggot-pie!*

Use
Shakespeare's
Words in an
Insult Slam
Contest

Optional
Compliment
Contest
Materials, too



Directions:

This is a single-elimination, winner-takes-all-bonus-points contest where students compete against each other in an insult (or compliment) contest using Shakespeare's riotous phrases.

1. Give each student a copy of the insult sheet. (For a nicer tone to the competition, use the flattery sheet instead. Also, you could use the insult sheet one day and the flattery sheet for a quick burst of fun energy on a different day, later in your unit of study.) Each student needs to create his/her own insult by choosing one option from each of the three columns. Students may jot down their insult on a piece of scrap paper and read from that when it's time to compete.
2. When students are ready, call them (two students at a time) up to the front of the room. Taking turns, each student hurls his insult at the other student with dramatic flair. The student with the most energetic, heartfelt performance is the winner of that round. So, if you have a class of 32 students, you'll have 16 winners for Round 1. This goes quickly.
3. Take the 16 winners and begin Round 2 of the slam contest. You could have them create a fresh insult (if time allows) or just recycle their Round 1 entries. Again, choose the winners, leaving 8 victors.
4. Repeat the process, leaving 4 victors. Then, again with 2 victors. The head-to-head competition of the final two students will determine the ultimate Shakespearean Slam Master. Award bonus points or a small prize.

For fun, I try to bring in guest judges. Our campus supervisor, a custodian, teachers on their prep period, and even our principal have served as judges over the years. Most times, I just serve as the judge, but it's more fun if you have a "guest judge" join you. Depending on the temperament of your class, you might also try a version where they insult you instead of each other. Have fun with it. This activity is certain to make for a lively class period.

SHAKESPEAREAN SLAM

Directions: The columns below represent language used by Shakespeare. Choose one phrase from each of the three columns below and craft your own version of an Elizabethan-era insult. In a few minutes, you'll need to have your insult ready to enter in our Shakespearean Slam Contest.

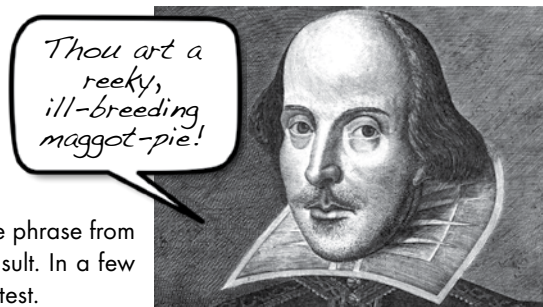
Be sure to start your insult with, "Thou art a..."

Translated, this means, "You are a..."

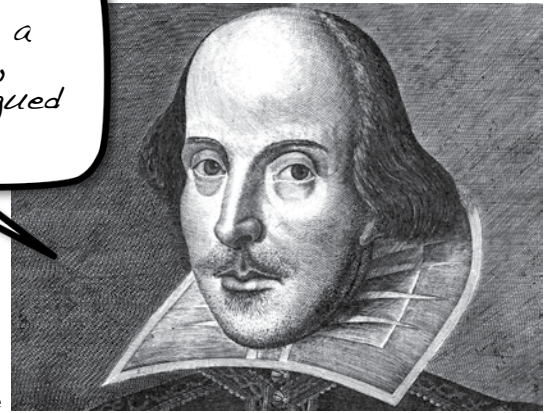
unmuzzled
foul
wrinkled
poisonous
babbling
jaded
knavish
peevish
bawdy
brazen
fitful
crusty
sottish
saucy
vacant
brutish
sour
wenching
yeasty
adulterate
bloody
clamorous
common
crafty
detested
lewd
gnarling
greasy
grizzled
haughty
hideous
pestilent
simpering
sneaking
queasy
rank
reeky
lousy
pernicious
monstrous
naughty
noisome

fell-lurking
frosty-spirited
hedge-born
hollow-hearted
bunch-backed
clay-brained
evil-eyed
iron-witted
lean-witted
lily-livered
eye-offending
smooth-tongued
horn-mad
ill-breeding
onion-eyed
pale-hearted
paper-faced
sodden-witted
raw-boned
rug-headed
long-tongued
sharp-eared
shrill-gorged
sour-faced
weak-hinged
white-livered
bald-pated
brazen-faced
burly-boned
cold-blooded
cream-face
double-dealing
promise-breaking
horn-mad
low-born
marble-hearted
night-brawling
prick-eared
ill-composed
ill-nurtured
mad-bred
muddy-mettled

water-fly
whipster
yonker
leper
skains-mate
nit
puke-stocking
canker-blossom
clot pole
dogfish
lackey
rascal
hempseed
hedge-pig
drudge
nag
toad
maggot-pie
hag
mongrel
baboon
boar
tickle-brain
cuckold
dog-ape
dung-hill
drunkard
lout
hobby-horse
stench
jack-a-nape
malignancy
lack-beard
she-fox
rabbit-sucker
plague-sore
slug
rudesby
ruffian
serpent
knob
snipe



*Thou art a delicate,
sweet-tongued nymph!*



SHAKESPEAREAN FLATTERY

Directions: The columns below represent language used by Shakespeare. Choose one phrase from each of the three columns below and craft your own version of Elizabethan-era sweet talk. In a few minutes, you'll need to have your compliment ready to enter in our Shakespearean Flattery Contest.

**Be sure to start
your line with,
"Thou art a..."**

**Translated,
this means,
"You are a..."**

rare	honey-tongued	nymph
sugared	well-wishing	ornament
precious	berhyming	toast
dutiful	fair-faced	curiosity
damasked	fingered-tied	apple-john
flowering	heart-inflaming	bilbo
gallant	not-answering	cuckoo-bud
celestial	spleenative	nose-herb
sweet	softly sprighted	gamester
saucy	smooth-faced	knight
sportful	sweet-suggesting	goddess
artful	swinge-buckling	night-cap
heavenly	tender-hearted	delight
robust	tender-feeling	watercake
tuneful	thunder-darting	umpire
courteous	tiger-booted	sprite
delicate	lusty	song
silken	hooded	Welsh cheese
brave	time-pleasing	kissing-comfit
complete	superstitious	wit-cracker
vasty	sympathizing	hawthorn-bud
pleasing	sweet-tongued	valentine
bountiful	weeping-ripe	smilet
rosy-cheeked	well-favored	true-penny
deserving	young-eyed	primrose
melting	sweet-mouthing	path
wholesome	best-tempered	gaudy-night
fruitful	well-graced	pigeon-egg