

# Introduction to Shakespeare Lesson 3: The Globe



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The background of the slide is a photograph of a traditional wooden building, likely a historical theatre or a similar structure. It features a prominent thatched roof on the left and a wooden structure with a window on the right. The scene is set outdoors, with a clear sky visible in the upper part of the image.

# Learning Objective

To explore and take effective notes on The Globe theatre.

## Success Criteria

- All pupils will be able to describe The Globe
- Most pupils will be able to take some notes
- Some pupils will be able to use their own notes to produce a further piece of work

# Elizabethan Theatre Quiz

## True or false?

1. Lots of women were actors, but they wore masks. ✗
2. Theatres were well lit. ✗
3. Only rich people could go to the theatre. ✗
4. Before theatres, actors used barns and inn yards to put on plays. ✓
5. There were no female characters in the plays. ✗
6. The audience often talked back to the actors during the performance. ✓
7. The people who stood up to watch the play were called 'foundlings'. ✗

# Taking Notes

Make notes in your books when you are listening to and reading the following information. You will need this information for your next task.

- Write down only the **main points**.
- Use abbreviations if it helps – as long as you can read it back.
- If it helps to use diagrams or mind maps, feel free to include them.
- Draw sketches if it will help you to remember.
- Use bullet points if you wish.

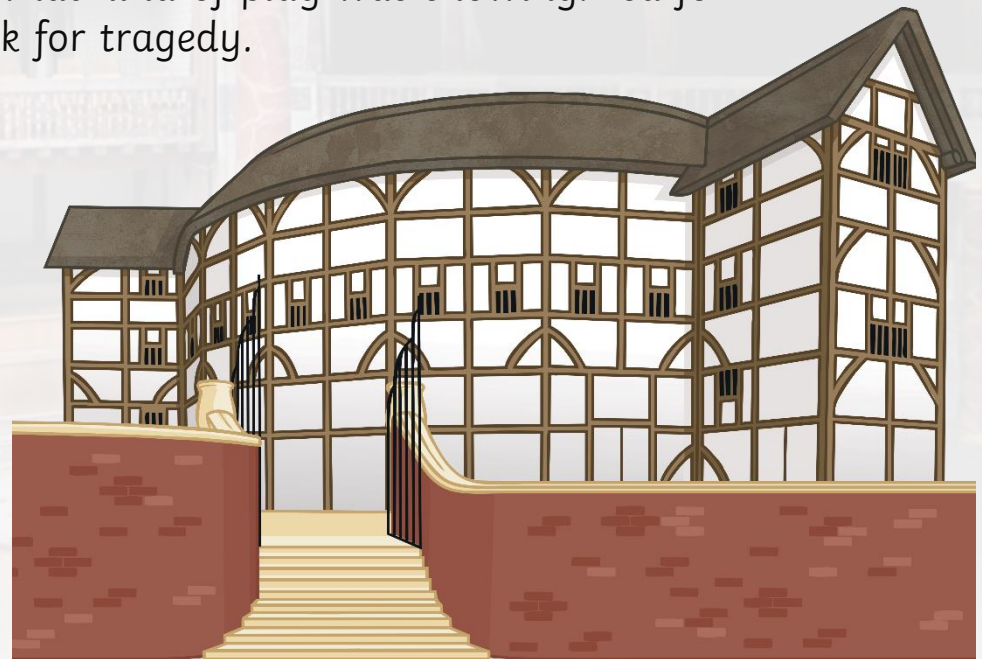


# The Globe

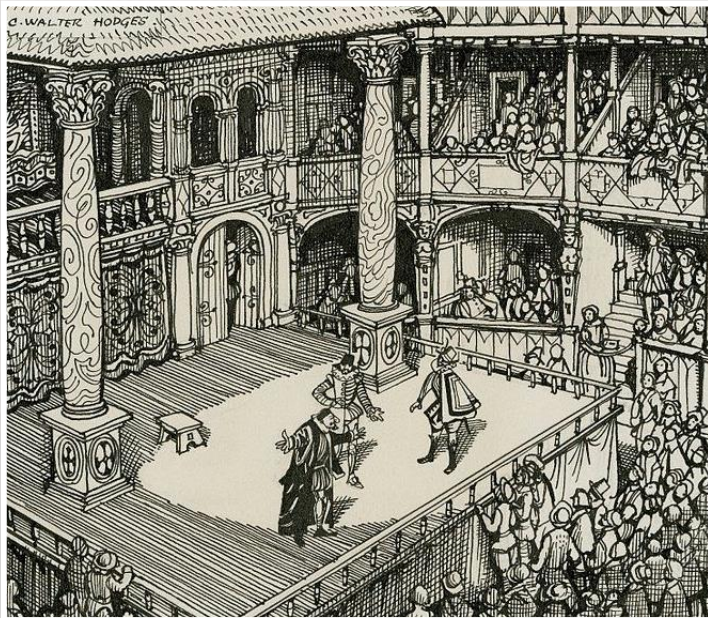
The Globe theatre was built next to the Thames in 1599. Shakespeare owned 12.5% of the theatre as his acting company, The Lord Chamberlain's Men, clubbed together to pay for the land and the building.

The theatre was round in shape and made out of wood. It had a thatched roof around the outside but was open in the middle to allow light in for the plays.

The Globe flew flags to tell people what kind of play was showing: red for history, white for comedy and black for tragedy.



# Inside the Globe



Inside, the three storey seating area was around the edges of the building, underneath the roof.

The stage, known as an 'apron stage', jutted out into the audience. In front of it was the 'pit' where the groundlings would have stood.

There was no scenery on the stage, but there were special effects such as cannons firing and the sound of the wind blowing.

# Danger!



Luckily, they were hunting for a spark, despite the lack of fire exits.  
The only slight injury was to a man whose trousers caught fire.  
An hour later The Globe was burned down.  
A quick-witted theatre goer quickly put it out  
by throwing beer over him!

# Resurrection



The Globe was rebuilt immediately and opened again a year later. This time it had a tiled roof.

Many of Shakespeare's plays were written for The Globe and he often performed in them himself, although he didn't take a lead role as he was too busy directing the other actors.

It finally closed in 1642 when the Puritans banned all forms of theatre.



# Not the End



In the late 1980s, archaeologists found the foundations of the original Globe Theatre. They realised that rather than round it was a 20 sided polygon.

In the 1990s, a reconstruction of The Globe was built close to where it originally stood. You can visit it today and watch plays just like in Shakespeare's day.







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# Task



Design a leaflet for either the 1599 opening of the original Globe or for the re-opening in 1614.

It must appeal to a wide range of people and include some drawings or diagrams.

If there is any information you don't know, such as opening times, use your imagination.

# Ask Him a Question



This is a waxwork of Shakespeare at Madame Tussaud's in London.

It's the nearest we will get to seeing him in person!

**Think of three questions you would ask Shakespeare if he were alive today.**



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