

name: _____

class: _____

date: _____

The Role of Masks in Elizabethan Plays



In the _____ era, theatre was a popular form of entertainment. The most famous playwright, _____, often included masques in his plays. These were not just simple masks, but elaborate costumes that transformed actors into mythical creatures, gods, or even abstract concepts like _____. Masques added a sense of mystery and spectacle to the plays.

The actors who performed in these plays were all _____, as women were not allowed to act on stage. Young boys often played the roles of _____, wearing masks to help portray female characters. Masks were also used to symbolize different emotions or traits, such as _____ or nobility.

The Globe Theatre, a well-known _____ in London, hosted many of these performances. Audiences from various social classes came to watch, and the use of masks helped bridge language barriers, as not all attendees spoke _____ fluently.

Masques were also part of court _____. Queen Elizabeth I, a patron of the arts, enjoyed these _____. They were often more lavish than public theatre productions, with intricate designs and expensive _____.

Interestingly, masks in Elizabethan theatre were not just for disguise. They played a crucial role in the _____. For instance, in Shakespeare's play "The Tempest", the character of _____ uses a masque to reveal truths and manipulate other characters.

The use of _____ declined towards the end of the Elizabethan era. However, their impact on theatre and the way stories were told was _____. They added depth to characters and allowed actors to explore various roles in a more expressive way.

Death

women

men

playhouse

entertainment

jealousy

Shakespeare

storytelling

materials

Prospero

masks

significant

performances

Elizabethan

English