

Name: _____

Date: _____

SHAKESPEAREAN LANGUAGE ACTIVITY

Key:

Alas: an exclamation of sorrow, pity, regret or worry

Anon: at another time; again

Aye: always; ever; also

Cousin: any relative

Doth: do

Ere: before

Fie: for shame!

Fortnight: two weeks (fourteen nights)

Hark: listen

Hast: used with “thou”

Hath: has

Hence: from this place; away

Hie: hurry

Hither: toward

I’Faith: in faith

Naught: nothing

Nay: no

Ne’er: never

O’: of

O’er: over

Pray: please

Prithee: please; I pray thee

Shalt: shall

Th’: the

Thee; Thou: you

Thy: your

’Tis: it is; **’Twas:** it was

’Twixt: between

Whence: what, where, or when

Whither: to what place, result, or condition?

Wield: to handle

Wilt: will

Withal: by this



In the second column, change the following 10 sentences from Shakespearean language to modern-day language:

SHAKESPEAREAN LANGUAGE	MODERN DAY TRANSLATION
1. Hast thou not seen?	
2. Ne’er hast mine eyes beheld such disarray?	
3. ’Tis ’twixt thee and me.	
4. Hie to the church!	
5. Nay, thou speakest falsehoods.	
6. I’faith, my lord, I ne’er breathed a word of this to any soul.	
7. I’ll stay with thee for a fortnight	
8. From whence hast thee heard this news?	
9. Alas, ’twas all for naught.	
10. Thou dost make a fool out of me.	

Translate the next five sentences into Shakespearean language. Then, write 5 of your own sentences and include their translation into Shakespearean language.

SHAKESPEAREAN LANGUAGE	MODERN DAY TRANSLATION
11.	You did that for nothing!
12.	Please, don't let anything come between us.
13.	I will love you forever.
14.	Where do you want to meet?
15.	Oh my! I am very sorry for this news.
16.	
17.	
18.	
19.	
20.	



KEY

21. Hast thou not seen?	Haven't you seen?
22. Ne'er hast mine eyes beheld such disarray?	Never have my eyes seen such a mess.
23. 'Tis 'twixt thee and me.	It is between you and me.
24. Hie to the church!	Hurry yourself to church
25. Nay, thou speakest falsehoods.	No, you speak lies.
26. I'faith, my lord, I ne'er breathed a word of this to any soul.	In faith, my lord, I never spoke a word of this to anyone.
27. I'll stay with thee for a fortnight	I'll stay with you for 2 weeks.
28. From whence hast thee heard this news?	From where have you heard this news?
29. Alas, 'twas all for naught.	Oh sorrow/pity, it was all for nothing.
30. Thou dost make a fool out of me.	You are making a fool out of me.