The three lessons are based on a model of roughly 20 minutes of **input**, 20 minutes of **independent** **work** and 20 minutes of **discussion**.

**Macbeth**, by William Shakespeare | Lesson 1



Macbeth is brave and formidable warrior. At the beginning of the play, he fights alongside his brother-in-arms Banquo and successfully defeats two invading forces. King Duncan rewards his courage and loyalty by making him Thane of Cawdor. However, it doesn’t end there for Macbeth; even greater things are prophesised by three mysterious witches…

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| 1. **What are the main events of the play?**   Starting point: <https://www.bl.uk/works/macbeth>   1. **What are the main features of a tragedy?**   Starting point: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zpdq2hv/revision/1>   1. **Why is *Macbeth* still a relevant play?**   Starting point: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rD5goS69LT4> | Shakespeare for children.Macbeth | thirdwitchfirstmurderer |

**Macbeth**, by William Shakespeare | Lesson 2



*Macbeth* was first performed in 1606. At the time, James I was King of England and he had a genuine fear of witches and witchcraft. An indication of how strongly he felt is conveyed by the Witchcraft Act of 1604 he passed just a year after his coronation. Under the new law, those found guilty of practising witchcraft were automatically sentenced to death.

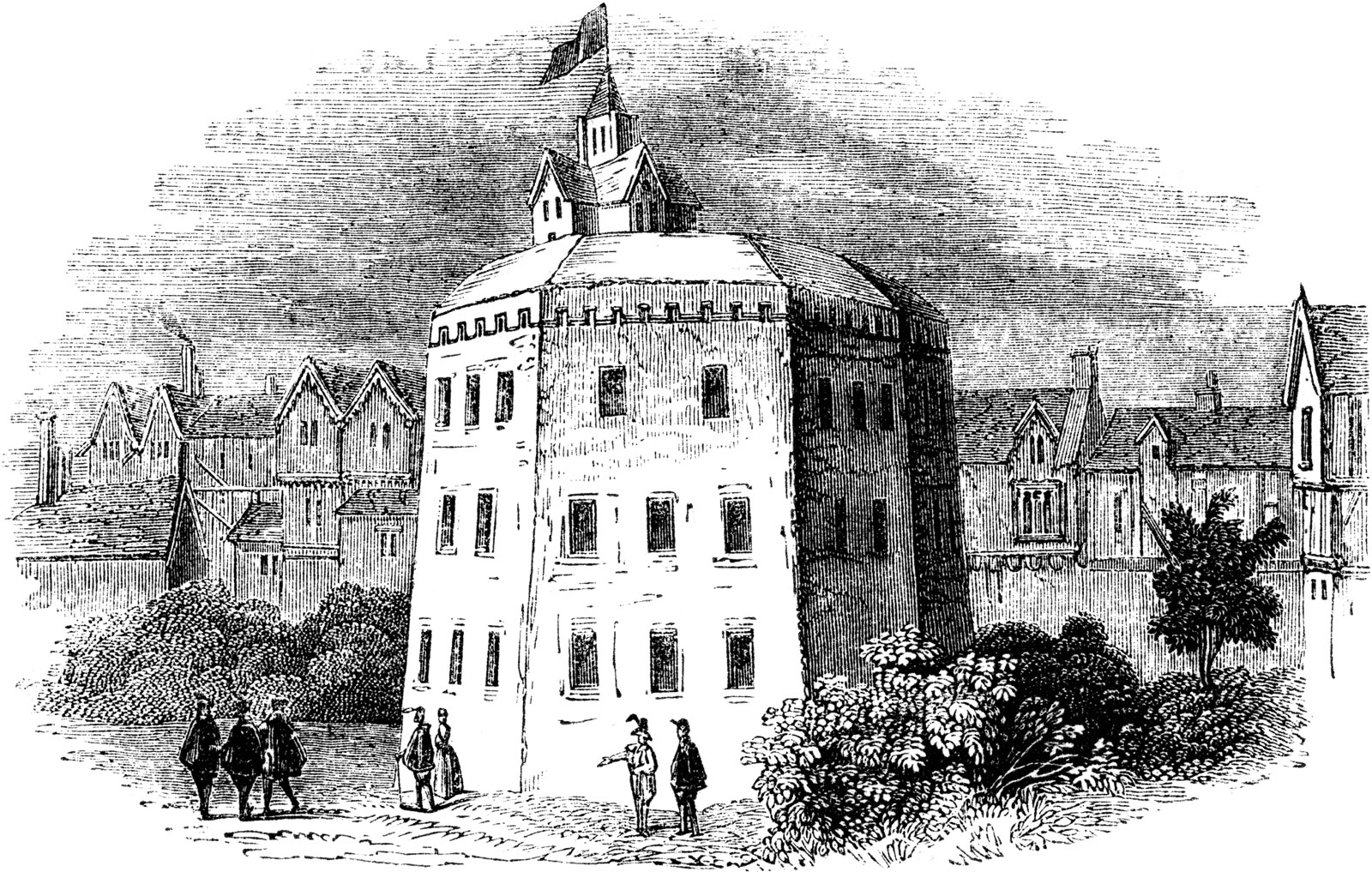
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| Article: <https://www.historyextra.com/period/stuart/shakespeares-macbeth-and-king-jamess-witch-hunts/> |

1. What **influenced** James I’s obsession with witches and witchcraft?
2. What was the **purpose** of the publication *Daemonolgie* and what sort of information did it contain?
3. What factors **prompted** playwrights of the time to write about witches and witchcraft?

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| Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BktNjd3C4XA> | Daemonologie: Or, How A King Whipped Up a Witch Craze - Icy Sedgwick |

1. What **happened** to James in 1590?
2. Why did **prosecutions** for the crime of witchcraft go down after the Witchcraft Act of 1604 was passed?
3. What were ‘some of the most **famous** witch trials in history’?

**Macbeth**, by William Shakespeare | Lesson 3



When Shakespeare wrote his plays (during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and, later, James I), actors had to be licensed in order to perform and needed the patronage of a nobleman. To avoid arrest, unlicenced actors – typically those who toured the country – performed beyond city boundaries in areas that contained brothels and bear-baiting arenas. Indeed, the original Globe Theatre was built in Southwark which, at the time, was unregulated by City of London officials and considered to be particularly disreputable.

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| Macbeth at The Globe Theatre by Derin Burke, Saint Olaves Grammar | This Is  Local London   1. **What experience would a trip to the theatre typically entail?**   Starting point: <https://teach.shakespearesglobe.com/fact-sheet-audiences>   1. **How was the Globe Theatre designed for actors and audiences?**   Starting point: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=95ec5xtt6Hs>   1. **What factors need to be considered when staging the play?**   Starting point: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zy7xtfr/revision/1> |  |