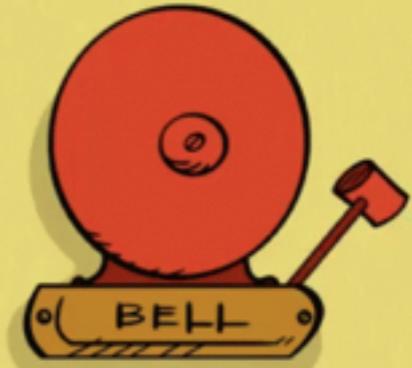
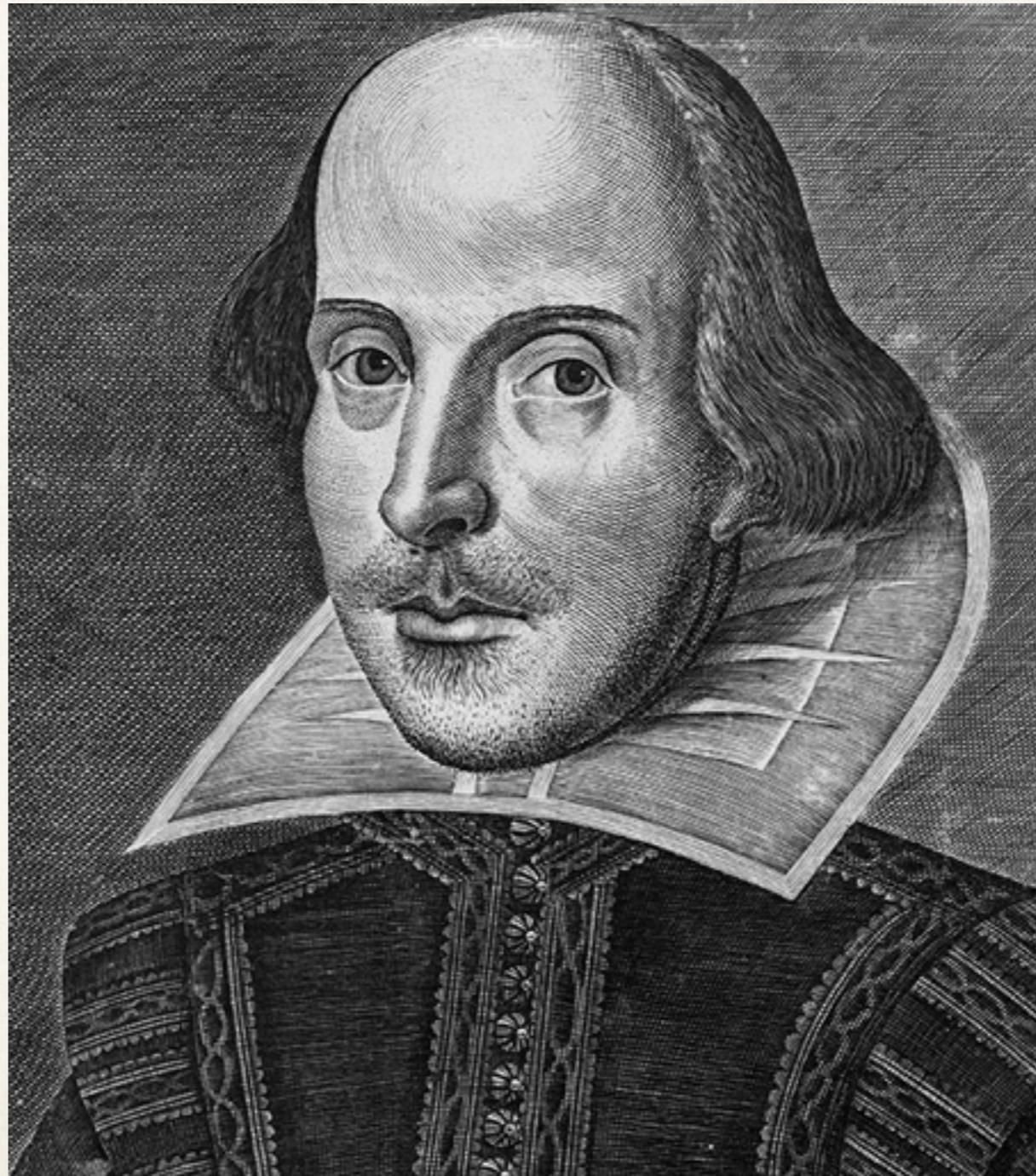


Bell Ringer



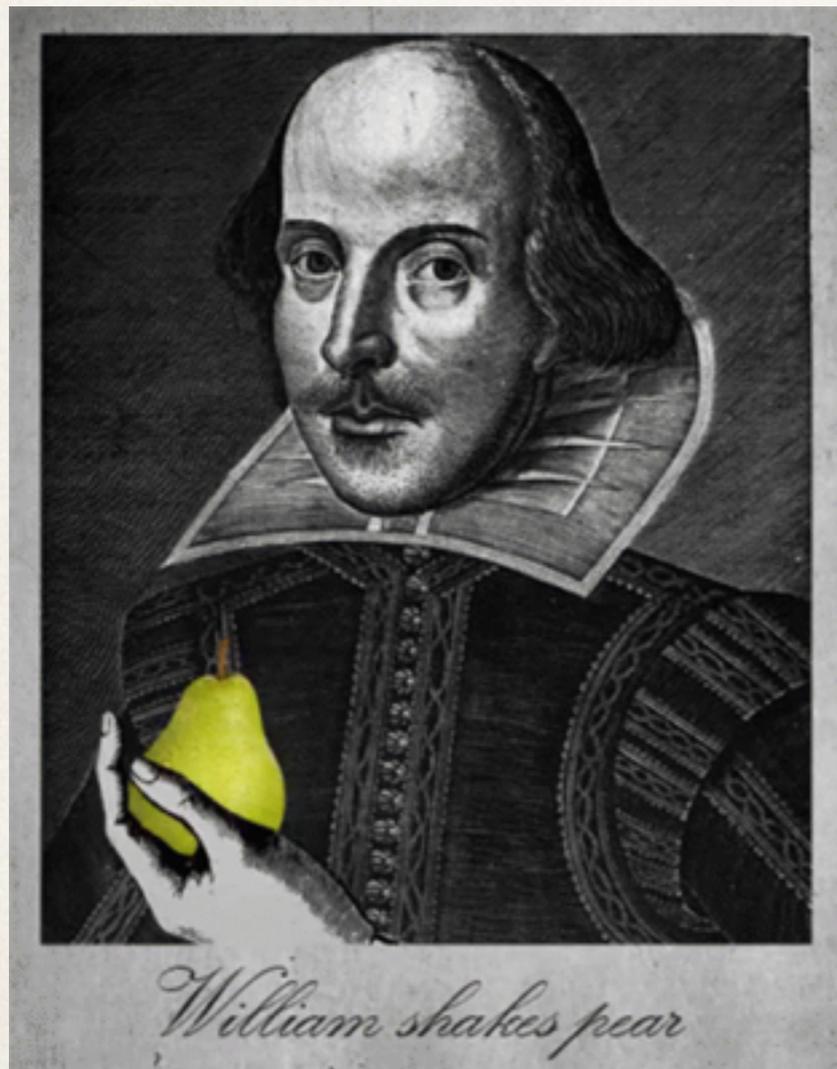
- ❖ **What did you do over your holiday?
Write me a letter that's at least 3 lines on
your paper describing what you did and
your favorite things about the holiday!**

Ya boi SHAKESPEARE is BA-ACK!



That's right, folks, Mr. Master of the Puns is making a return to our humble classroom.

❖ I couldn't choose one pun, so here are a few... hehehe.



William
Shakespeare



William
Stillspeare

Objective!



- ❖ Today, we will answer some big questions that will help us better understand Julius Caesar!
- ❖ We will also begin to look at background information that will help us understand what led to this being written and

Non-Stop Write!

- ❖ You have to write for 12 minutes non-stop!
- ❖ I'll put a new question up every 4 minutes. You don't have to answer every question, just be writing the whole time.
- ❖ This will help you think about things we will address while reading Julius Caesar.

❖ Think about the qualities possessed by a good leader. Generate a list of these qualities and choose a leader who exhibits several of them. Be ready to justify your choices to the class.

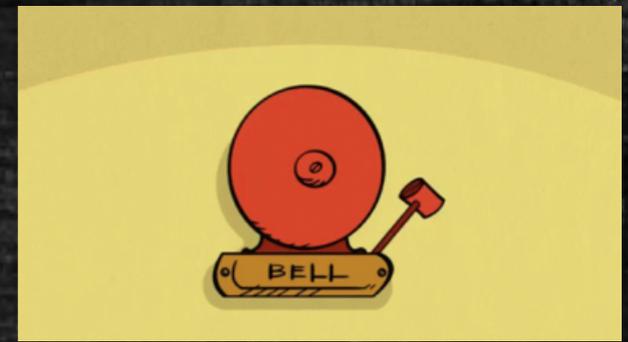
❖ How far would you go to stop a friend from harming your country? What about to obtain revenge on someone who hurt your best friend? Which is more important to you, friendship or personal principles? Why?

❖ To what extent can we control the future? How superstitious are you? Do you watch for omens before important events? Do you read your horoscope every day and follow its advice?

Let's discuss!



Bell Ringer



- Take five (or fewer) minutes to jot down the vocabulary words and definitions found on page 888 of the literature textbook.
- In your bell ringer spot for Tuesday, write your own sentences using 2 of those words!



BACKGROUND INFO

- ❖ We're going to read some background info in our textbook! Let's do this in pair-share.
- ❖ Take a minute and look at the questions on your "Preparing to Read: *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*" Reading Guide out!
- ❖ As you read and answer, think about how this will help you prepare to read Julius Caesar! Why is it important to know these things?

Bell Ringer

Find all 10 errors!



To be, or not to be, pondered William Shakespeare's troubled protagonist Hamlet. Shakespeare gave life to some of the most haunted characters and haunting lines in literature. The revered playwright and poet was born in Stratford-upon-Avon England on April 23, 1564. Productions of his tragedys and comedys continue too be performed around the world. He's sonnets are still widely read and studied by students and scholars a like. Shakespeare unquestionably had a way with words. He has been credited with popularizing some of the most common expressions in the english language, such as "foregone conclusion," "heart of gold," and "love is blind."

Objective!



- ❖ Let's continue looking at background information on Julius Caesar in order to determine why Shakespeare wrote this play and make predictions about what will happen in the play!
- ❖ We will also be reviewing characterization today in order to prepare for making inferences about our new characters!

A Noble Roman (page 889)

William Shakespeare may be the most famous person ever to write in England, but Julius Caesar, Roman general and statesman, was one of the first ever to write about it. In his account of his military exploits in Gaul (modern-day France and Belgium), Caesar describes the island of Britain and its inhabitants. Caesar invaded the island twice, in 55 and 54 B.C., but he did not remain there long.

Who was the first person to ever write about England?

What did he have to say about England?

Predict why you think he did not stay in England for long.

About a century later, however, the Romans returned to make the area of Britain that we now call England and outpost of their empire. The land remained in Roman hands until about A.D. 400, when the empire was collapsing and Roman troops were called home to defend their capital. As part of English history, Julius Caesar and ancient Rome were of particular interest to English writers and audiences.

Why did England fall out of the hands of Roman rule around A.D. 400?

Why do you think Julius Caesar and Rome were common subjects for English writers?

Rome in Caesar's Day

Since about 509 B.C., Rome had been a republic, a society ruled by a democratically elected government. Two public officials called consuls shared governing authority with the Senate and the Assemblies. Members of the Senate were high-born Romans called patricians, while members of the Assemblies were low-born Romans called plebeians.

What is the definition of a republic?

In the U.S., we have Senate and the House of Representatives. What are the two comparable groups in ancient Rome?

What is the difference in the two groups?

Who would be comparable to the president in American politics?

By the era of Julius Caesar (100-44 B.C.), Rome controlled a great empire through military expansion. However, the popularity of military leaders threatened the balance of power, and civil war became common. When a general named Pompey tried to make himself sole consul, another popular general, Julius Caesar, defeated him. As Shakespeare's play opens all of Rome wonders whether Caesar will appoint himself emperor, thus ending the republic.

How did Rome grow its empire?

Why did civil war become common during Caesar's rule?

Where does Shakespeare's play pick up in the historical conflict surrounding Caesar?

Plutarch, Shakespeare's Source

Shakespeare's source for *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* was *The Lives of the Noble Grecians and Romans*, Sir Thomas North's 1579 English translation of a book by the Greek philosopher Plutarch. Written late in the first century Plutarch's *Lives* included literary sketches of Julius Caesar, Marcus Brutus, and Marcus Antonius (Mark Antony), who had lived just over a century earlier.

What does this passage mean when it discusses Shakespeare's "source"?

Plutarch researched his information carefully, although he focused less on historical facts than on the personalities of his subjects. Shakespeare based his plot on the events Plutarch describes, but he condensed the timeline and added dramatic elements. For example, Plutarch writes that Antonius gave a funeral oration that stirred the common people to compassion and rage; Shakespeare did not know what Mark Antony actually said, but he gives us the speech as he imagined it.

How was Plutarch's account different from what might have been a more historically accurate account?

How did Shakespeare further digress from historical accuracy?

The Play through the Centuries

Often cited as Shakespeare's first tragedy, *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* has been drawing crowds ever since its premiere at the Globe Theatre in 1599. In 1916, to commemorate the three-hundredth anniversary of Shakespeare's death, a famous outdoor production was staged in the Hollywood hills, starring Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., and Tyrone Power.

Why do you think audiences have held so tightly to and lauded this play throughout history?

Students from area high schools reenacted the battle scenes. Just before World War II, Orson Welles produced a controversial adaptation that likened Caesar to Italian dictator Benito Mussolini. In 2005, a production starring Denzel Washington was mounted on Broadway. Ironically, the play about assassination is also one of the few in which Abraham Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, performed. In an 1864 production, Booth played the role of Mark Antony.

Why would Welles' adaptation have been controversial?

What is ironic about Booth's involvement in the 1864 production of *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar*?



Let's discuss!

Why do you think this information is important?

Predict: Using your new background knowledge, what things do you predict will be a part of the play?

Quick Review: Characterization

- ❖ What are the two types of characterization?
- ❖ What is STEAL?
- ❖ What was something we inferred about Prince Prospero? Why?
- ❖ What do you need to back up your claims about characters in order to be accurate?

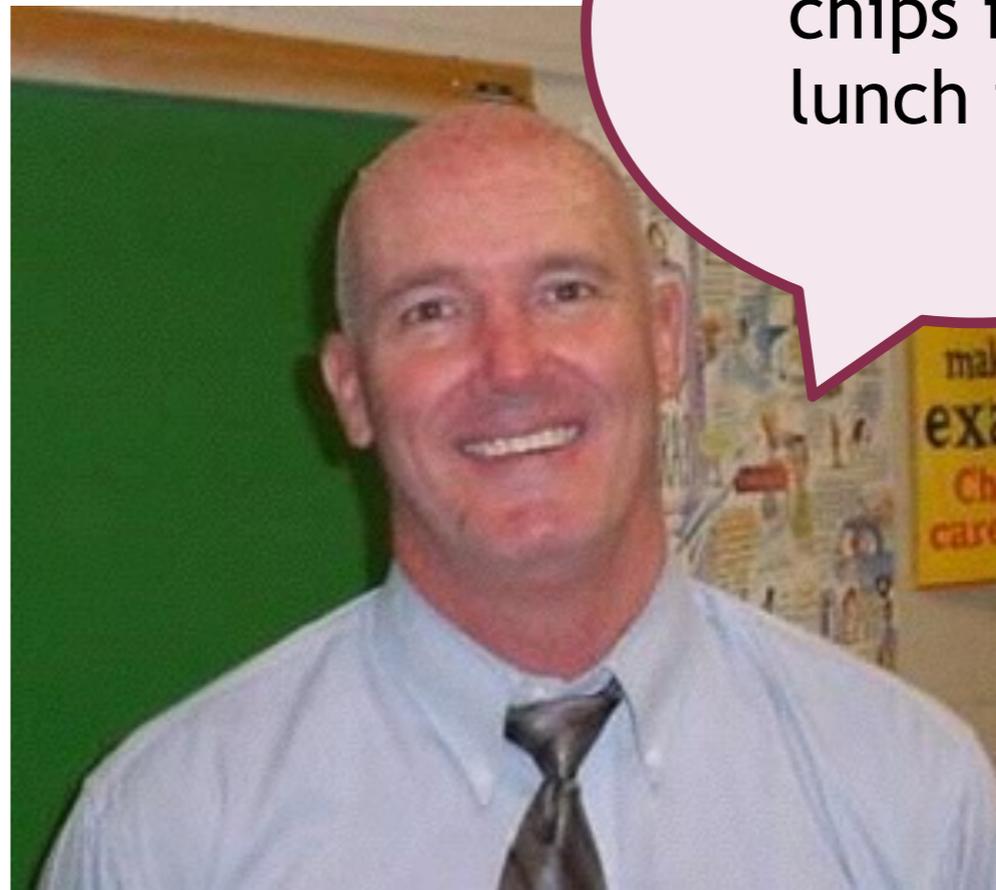
Direct Characterization

The writer tells you exactly (directly) what the character is like.

Betsy was a determined three year old, who knew what she wanted and often got her way, if she cried loud enough.



Mr. McCarthy has an obnoxiously loud voice which he uses to intimidate his students.

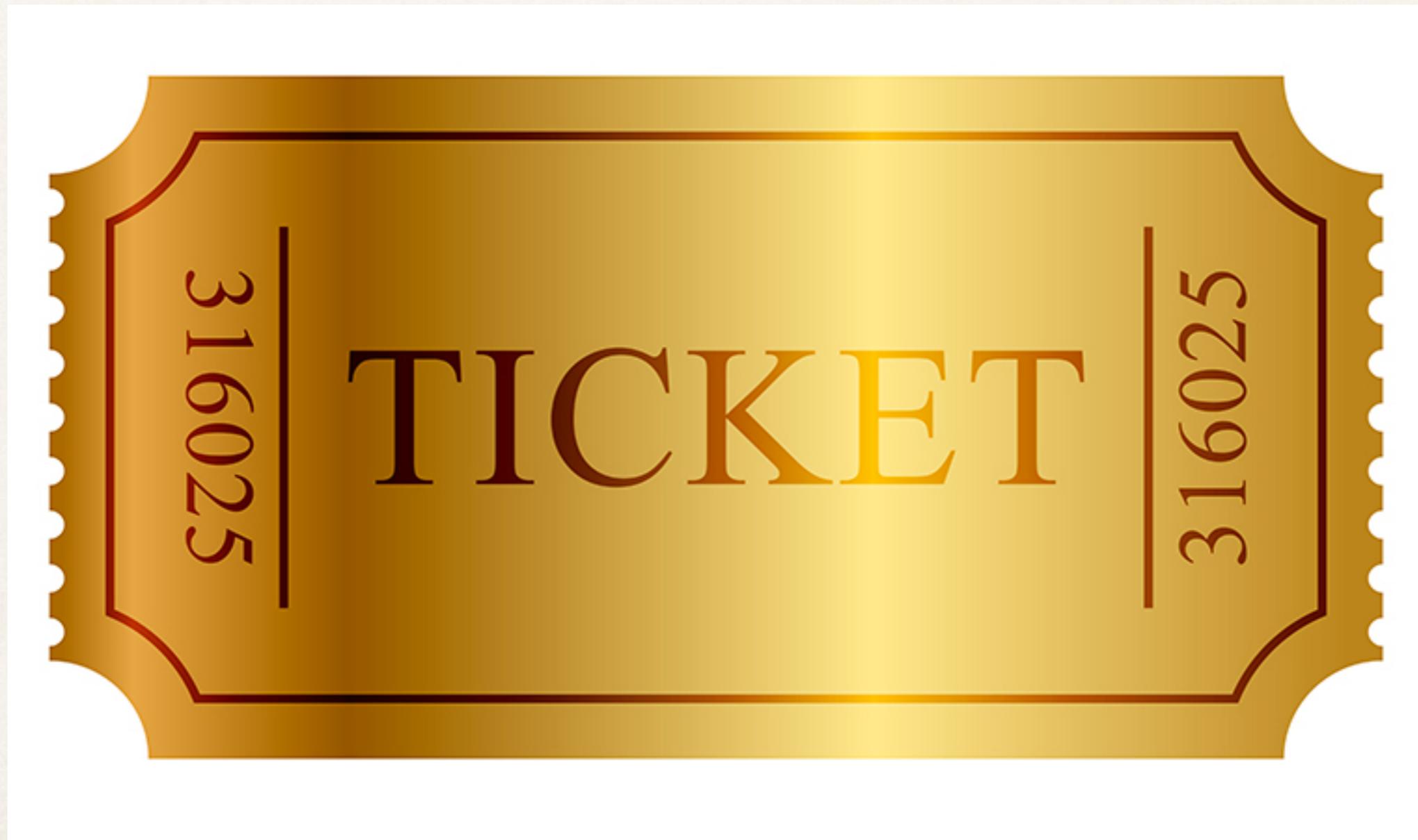


Did you eat your stupid chips for lunch today?

Indirect Characterization - writer shows you what character is like by revealing:

- **Speech:** What does the character say?
- **Thoughts:** What does the character think?
- **Effect on others:** Other character's comments or reactions. How do people respond to them?
- **Actions:** What does the character do?
- **Looks:** What does the character look like?

Exit Ticket





Exit Ticket



- ❖ Why is it important to know background information on what we read?
How can this help us better understand our texts?
- ❖ Why might Shakespeare have written a play about political instability? Think about what was happening in the government in England in the years leading up to him writing this play.
- ❖ In Act 1, Scene 2, this interaction happens between Antony and Caesar. What do you learn about Antony based on his reaction to Caesar?

Caesar: Antony, after you take off, don't forget to touch Calphurnia, because our wise elders say that if you touch an infertile woman during this holy race, she'll be freed from the curse of sterility.

Antony: I'll remember. When Caesar says "do this," it is done.