

Lesson Name : 43

Lesson Title : All the World's a Stage

Course Name : English 2 Part 1 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction



Read Shakespeare's "All the World's a Stage." To read "All the World's a Stage" online, click [here](#).

It is a good idea to use your digital notebook to keep notes about new vocabulary and definitions that you may need to reference later.

Understanding Theme

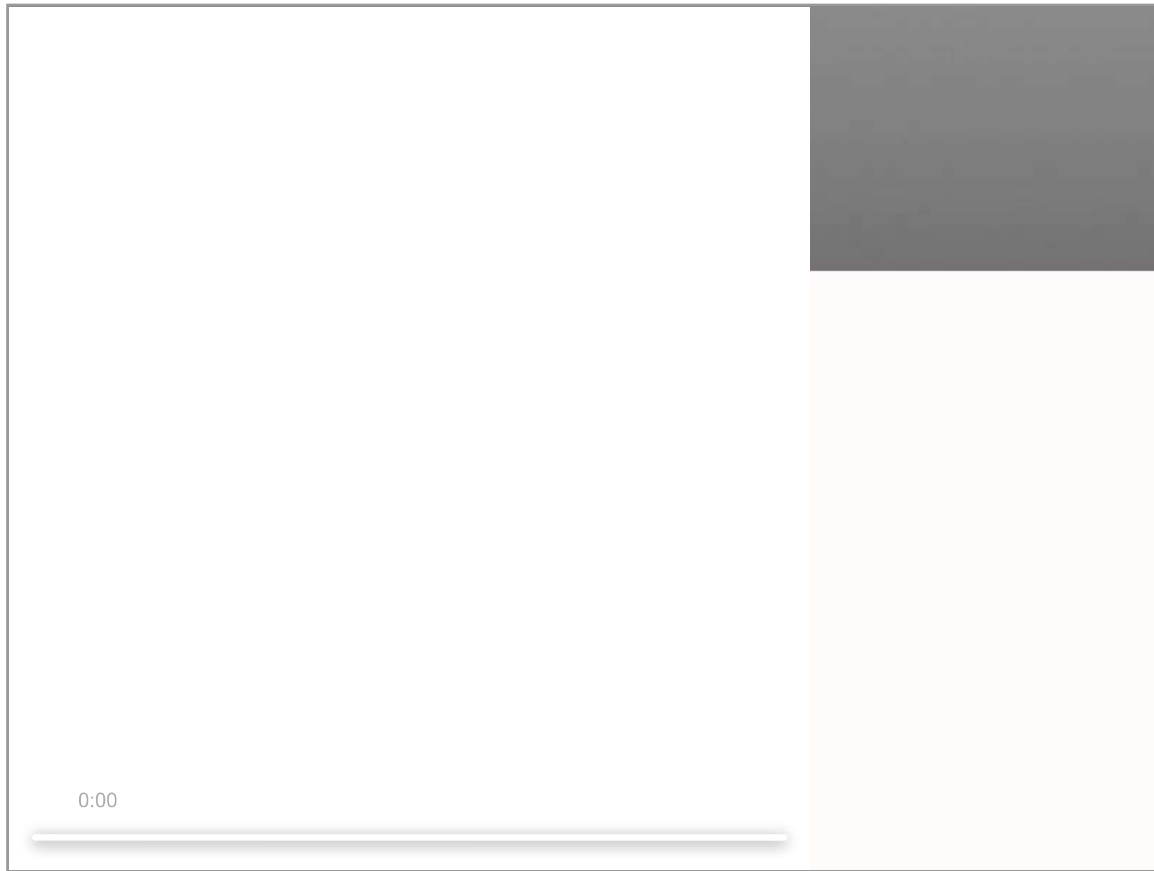
The **theme** of a text is a central idea that relates to the other elements of the story. It is the **message, moral, or lesson** that the story communicates. **Themes** often focus on ideas about life, society, or human nature. Sometimes a writer will intentionally put a theme into his or her work, but other times the **theme** is created by the plot and is not intentionally developed by the writer. The theme can be developed by the actions of the characters, the events of the plot, or even what the setting is like. The conflicts that characters face, both internal and external, can help highlight the **theme**. Sometimes the **theme** of a work is more subtle, and authors show their views through word choice and tone to give readers a message. **Themes** are often universal ideas, and readers can relate to those ideas even when the events of the plot are very different from the readers' experiences. Shakespeare's "All the World's a Stage," for example, uses the stages of life to highlight the theme that all people change and grow throughout their lives.

Semantic Charts and Root Words

A **semantic chart** is a graphic organizer that lets you see how ideas and words are related to, and associated with, each other. Let's start our study of **semantic charts** using root words.

The **root** of a word is the part of that word that expresses its basic meaning. You can add a prefix and/or a suffix to the **root** to alter the word's meaning and usage. Using a **semantic chart** can help you see the association or similarities between several different words that share the same **root**. To help you create semantic charts, feel free to use the following template. Click [here](#) to open the template.

Write a root word on a piece of paper and draw a circle or a square around it. Around that circle or square, write down different words that have the same root. For example, the root **bio** (meaning *life*) is found in the words **biology, biometrics, biome, and biosphere**, all of which have to do with *life* in some way. Under each word, write down its definition. This practice can help you remember the definitions of various words and it can help you better understand the root so that when you come across it in other words, you will recognize it.



[Open Video in New Tab](#)



Vocabulary

Understanding the words used in poetry can aid your understanding of the poems themselves. Here are some words from “All the World’s a Stage”:

1. **pard** – noun – leopard
2. **mewling** – verb – crying weakly; whimpering
3. **ballad** – noun – a slow popular song that is typically about love