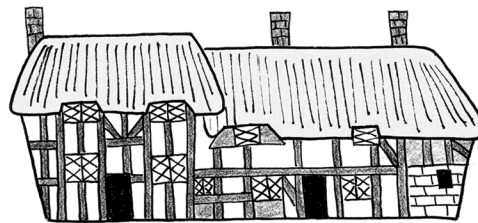


Words we use thanks to Shakespeare

William Shakespeare wrote at a time, when English as a language was changing fast. Hundreds of new words were created that we still use today, and some of them appear for the first time in Shakespeare's plays.

Only some of these are listed here, there are many more. Circle those you have heard before, or where you think you know their meaning.

alligator
bedroom
birthplace
downstairs
eyeball
farmhouse
gloomy
to gossip
noiseless
unreal



Shakespeare liked joining words together, to make what we call **compound words**. Make a list of all the compound words you can find here.

Which compound words do you think the English language needs?
Do you know any from your home language?



Words we use thanks to Shakespeare

alligator (*Romeo and Juliet*, Act 5, Scene 1) - a large reptile, like a crocodile

bedroom (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Act 2, Scene 2) - a room used for sleeping

birthplace (*Coriolanus*, Act IV, Scene 4) - the place where someone was born

downstairs (*Henry IV Part I*, Act 2, Scene 4) - on or to a lower floor of a building

eyeball (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Act 3, Scene 2) - the entire round part of the eye

farmhouse (*The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Act 2, Scene 3) - a house on a farm

gloomy (*Henry VI Part I*, Act 5, Scene 4) - a bit dark; also, sad, depressed

to gossip (*The Comedy of Errors*, Act 5, Scene 1) - to talk about the personal lives of other people, sometimes in a mean way

noiseless (*All's Well That Ends Well*, Act 5, Scene 3) - without loud sounds

unreal (*Macbeth*, Act 3, Scene 4) - not real, fake; also, very strange, unusual

