SHAKESPEARE’S TRAGEDIES

KICK-OFF QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What was the historical period Shakespeare lived in known as?

2. Who was on the throne in England in Shakespeare’s time? How long was s/he on the throne?

3. Where did Shakespeare live?

4. What do you know about London theatres in Shakespeare’s time?

5. Can you mention any of Shakespeare’s tragedies?

6. Can you mention any of his comedies?

7. Can you mention any of his history plays?
8. What is a quarto?

9. What is a folio?

10. What is a tragedy?

11. Can you name any tragedies from classical antiquity?

12. Could you name some of the main topics to be found in *Hamlet*?

13. What is a play-within-a-play?

14. Could you name some of the main topics to be found in *Othello*?

15. Could you name some of the main topics to be found in *King Lear*?

16. What do you know about racial discourses in early modern England?
17. What do you know about the status of women in early modern England?

18. What is Humanism? When did the Renaissance take place in England?

19. Why do you think Shakespeare has become such a canonical figure in the Western tradition?

20. Do you know of any alternative readings of Shakespeare's plays?

21. Are you familiar with cultural materialism and new historicism?

22. What is the difference between liberal humanism and cultural materialism?

23. Are you familiar with feminist and gender studies?

24. Are you familiar with the postcolonial approach to Shakespeare?