

**THE FOUR PERIOD OF OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS**

**FIRST PERIOD 1590-1595**

This are a period of learning and experimentation during wich Shakespeare wrote various different types of plays

The principal comedies/romances are : A Midsummer Night's Dream and The Taming of The Shrew

The principal History plays are : Henry VI, Richard III and Richard II

The principal tragedies/roman plays are : Titus Andronicus and Romeo and Juliet

The principal comedies/ romances and history plays are : The Merchant of Venice, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Much Ado About Nothing, Twelfth Night, Henry IV, Henry V and Julius Caesar.

**SECOND PERIOD 1596-1600**

Shakespeare focused on chronicle plays and comedies. During this period he wrote his best comedies.

**THIRD PERIOD 1601-1608**

Shakespeare wrote his great tragedies and darker elements appeared in his comedies.

The principal comedies/romances and Tragedies are: Measure for Measure, Pericles, Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, Macbeth; Antony and Cleopatra, Coriolanus and Timon of Athens.

**FOURTH PERIOD 1609-1612**

Shakespeare wrote romances where magic and reality intermingle and improbable storylines are used to teach moral lessons.

The principal comedies/romances are: The tempest, Cymbeline and The Winter's Tale

# Notes

## 1) THE FOUR PERIOD OF OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS

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