

TALES FROM SHAKESPEARE CHARLES AND MARY LAMB

STAGE 4
B2
YOUNG ADULT READERS

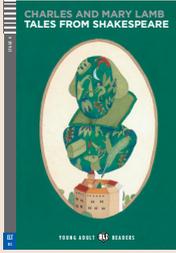
ACTIVITY

Choose the correct verb for each space and in the correct form.

beg - deny - deserve - insult - lack - spoil - trust

- When everyone saw that I no longer had the ring on my finger, I could no longer _____ that I had lost it.
- He had said so many rude things about me behind my back and _____ me to my face, that I couldn't forgive him.
- When he was a little boy, his parents allowed him to do what he wanted, they _____ him, and now he is a very selfish man.
- She had been working as a lawyer for a year, when she decided to leave her job, I _____ her not to, told her she would regret it, but she didn't listen.
- I am going to tell you a secret, and I am only telling you because I _____ you not to tell anyone else.
- He was very unlucky in his life, he _____ to lose his job and then his house.
- She went back to studying, because she _____ the right skills to become a therapist.

1 deny; 2 had insulted; 3 spoiled; 4 begged; 5 trust; 6 didn't deserve; 7 lacked.



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TEST YOURSELF

Match the plot summaries with the correct play.

A Midsummer Night's Dream
As You like It
Macbeth
Much Ado About Nothing
The Merchant of Venice
The Tempest
Twelfth Night

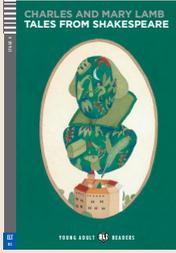
- 1 A lord listens to the words of three witches. He kills a king, goes mad with guilt and is killed when the truth is discovered.

- 2 A jealous man tries to destroy the happiness of his half-brother and his friends, but it all ends well when the two young couples at the centre of the story eventually marry.

- 3 A young woman is banished from the court. She disguises herself as a young man, and her friend, the daughter of the Duke, disguises herself as a shepherdess. They go to live in the forest of Arden where no one is who they seem.

- 4 A young woman must marry the man who chooses the correct casket. A man borrows money from a moneylender, who tells him he will 'take his pound of flesh' if he can't pay back the money.

- 5 The fairy king has a magical servant who uses a magical liquid to create confusion. The wrong people all fall in love with each other and the fairy queen falls in love with a man with a donkey's head. In the end, all is resolved happily.

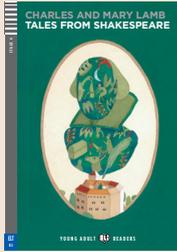


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- 6 A young woman arrives on a distant island. She pretends to be a man and goes to work for a young duke. She falls in love with him, but he thinks she is a boy. He is in love with someone else, and that someone else falls in love with the young woman who is dressed as a boy!
- _____
- 7 A magical island and a storm bring a group of people together. The magician who rules the island wants justice, after he and his daughter were left to die by the magician's brother.
- _____



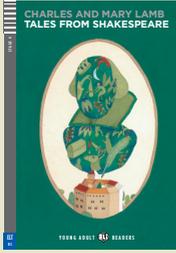
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FCE - Speaking

**Work in pairs. Talk about the theatre and entertainment.
Use the prompts to help you.**

- theatre
- plays
- live performance
- audience
- atmosphere
- sociable
- boring / enjoyable



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FOCUS ON...

XENOPHOBIA DURING SHAKESPEARE'S TIME

In medieval England, xenophobia swept through the population as many foreigners arrived on English shores between 1330 and 1550 to look for better lives. Locals blamed them for taking their jobs and changing their culture. Tensions reached a peak in 1517, as uproars broke out in London and a mob armed with stones, bricks, bats, boots and boiling water attacked the immigrants and thieved their homes. This day, known as “Evil May Day”, was portrayed in a then-prohibited play called *The Book of Sir Thomas More*, believed to be written between 1596 and 1601. William Shakespeare and two other writers were called to edit the manuscript. The play was never performed when Shakespeare was alive because the Queen’s censor believed it might arouse riots when England was once again threatened by another immigrant crisis when French-speaking Protestant arrived asking for asylum.

