

## William Shakespeare

Thesis Statement: William Shakespeare's writing was influenced by his marriage to Anne Hathaway and the death of their son Hamnet. His use of iambic pentameter and figurative language exemplifies the Renaissance period of British literature.

### I. Early life

#### A. His family

1. John Shakespeare
2. Mary Arden

#### B. Early marriage

1. Anne Hathaway
2. Their children

### II. The Elizabethan Era

#### A. Religion

#### B. Prosperity

#### C. The Plague

### III. The Renaissance

#### A. Patronage

#### B. Poetry

1. Sonnets
2. Lyrics

#### C. Drama

1. Playwright
2. Actor

#### *Basic Outline Rules*

1. *Use topics, not sentences.*
2. *If you have A., you must have B.*
3. *If you have 1., you must have 2.*
4. *All headings should be grammatically parallel.*
5. *Capitalize only the first word and proper nouns.*
6. *Do NOT use periods.*
7. *Follow the correct indents and spacing.*
8. *Do NOT use Introduction and Conclusion as headings.*
9. *Place your last name and page number in the header and use a lower-case Roman numeral.*
10. *You should have at least 5 Roman numerals. The other letters and numbers will be different for each person, but greater depth will yield a better grade.*
11. *Though formatted properly, given its limited detail and absence of examples, this outline would likely earn a "C."*

IV. Iambic pentameter

A. Blank verse

B. Couplets

V. Figurative language

A. Metaphor

B. Simile

C. Personification

D. Allusion