## name: date:

Worksheet for “Shakespeare: Social and Historical Context: Society”

# Task 1

Read the text “Shakespeare: Social and Historical Context: Society” and highlight important information about the society of Shakespeare and its origins (e.g. religious beliefs). Use one colour for society and another for origins! Consult the “Language help”-sheet if you do not understand certain words.

# Task 2

## After reading the text, check your understanding of the text by solving the quiz below. Circle the correct letters and then compare the results with your neighbour!

**Quiz**

### Which monarchs ruled during Shakespeare’s lifetime?

* 1. Queen Victoria and King George III
  2. Queen Elizabeth I and King James I
  3. King Henry VIII and Queen Mary I

### How was society structured in Shakespeare’s time?

* 1. The king or queen at the top, followed by the Church, aristocracy, farmers, merchants, craftsmen, then laborers and beggars
  2. All people were equal, with the Church as the highest authority
  3. The aristocracy was at the top, followed by farmers and craftsmen, while the Church had no influence

### What is meant by the "divine right of kings"?

* 1. The belief that rulers were chosen by God and acted according to His will
  2. Kings and queens were elected democratically
  3. Anyone could become a monarch through bravery and achievements

### What does the "great chain of being" refer to?

* 1. The belief in a fixed order of importance, with God at the top, followed by humans, animals, and plants
  2. A philosophy that saw all people as equals
  3. A religious belief that only nobles were of divine origin

### What was life like for women in the Elizabethan age?

* 1. Women had the same rights as men and could choose whom to marry
  2. Women were seen as inferior, had to obey men, and had no say in their marriage
  3. Women had the right to study and hold political positions