

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

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

- a) Queen Victoria and King George III
- b) Queen Elizabeth I and King James I
- c) King Henry VIII and Queen Mary I

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

- a) The king or queen at the top, followed by the Church, aristocracy, farmers, merchants, craftsmen, then laborers and beggars
- b) All people were equal, with the Church as the highest authority
- c) The aristocracy was at the top, followed by farmers and craftsmen, while the Church had no influence

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

- a) The belief that rulers were chosen by God and acted according to His will
- b) Kings and queens were elected democratically
- c) Anyone could become a monarch through bravery and achievements

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

- a) The belief in a fixed order of importance, with God at the top, followed by humans, animals, and plants
- b) A philosophy that saw all people as equals
- c) A religious belief that only nobles were of divine origin

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

- a) Women had the same rights as men and could choose whom to marry
- b) Women were seen as inferior, had to obey men, and had no say in their marriage
- c) Women had the right to study and hold political positions

