

# Lesson ideas and materials

## William Shakespeare

### The language

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### Teaching aims

Students deepen their language awareness by defining idioms as very specific phrases with a non-literal meaning and by looking at specific examples coined by Shakespeare that are still used in modern English today.

### Description of material

The following material consists of

- Illustration of the idiom “not sleeping a wink” (Worksheet 1) [AI-generated, 16.12.2024]
- Understanding Shakespeare’s idioms (Worksheet 2, by Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, [https://media.shakespeare.org.uk/documents/Understanding\\_Shakespeares\\_Idioms\\_Final.pdf](https://media.shakespeare.org.uk/documents/Understanding_Shakespeares_Idioms_Final.pdf))
- Shakespearean story (Worksheet 3 Option 1) [AI-generated, 14.12.2024]
- Shakespearean scene (Worksheet 3 Option 2) [AI-generated, 16.12.2024]
- Shakespeare’s idioms quiz (Worksheet 4) [AI-generated, 22.11.2024]

### Overview of lesson design:

Phase / Teaching activity / Impulse	Material
<p><b>Activity 1 [partner work, plenary discussion]</b></p> <p>Teacher greets students: <i>Good morning everyone! Oh, I'm so tired this morning, I have not slept a wink last night.</i></p> <p>Teacher asks the students what “not having slept a wink” might mean. The students discuss this with a partner and then share their thoughts. An in-class discussion about idioms (<i>What are they?</i>) follows. Product: A definition of idioms.</p>	WS 1: illustration



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Phase / Teaching activity / Impulse	Material
<p><b>Activity 2 [individual work]</b></p> <p>The teacher explains that Shakespeare invented a lot of idioms and that those are still used today (like the one used by the teacher in the introduction). The teacher then hands out WS 1 and explains the tasks.</p>	<p>WS 2: <i>Understanding Shakespeare's idioms</i></p>
<p><b>Activity 3 [partner work, plenary discussion]</b></p> <p>The teacher hands out a worksheet with a story / scene for a Shakespearean type of play written by ChatGPT that uses the idioms the students just learned.</p> <p>In pairs, the students rewrite the story/scene. They need to make sure the idioms are used correctly and can also change other things to their liking. Some rewritings are presented in class.</p>	<p>WS 3: Story / scene written by ChatGPT</p>
<p><b>Activity 4 [individual work]</b></p> <p>Students complete a quiz on Shakespeare's idioms.</p>	<p>WS 4: Quiz</p>

