

Before beginning, consider completing a KWL chart to assess your prior knowledge and plan for further learning.

K What I know	W What I want to know	L What I learned

For Teachers

KWL (Know, Want to know, Learned)

Step 1 Download a KWL chart (<https://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/pdf/kwl.pdf>), or have students create their own with three columns and two rows — one row for the headings and one larger one in which to write. Label the first column with a K for “What I Know,” the second with a W for “What I Wonder,” and the third with an L for “What I Learned” or a variation of this. Introduce the KWL strategy and model how to use it with the topic.

(https://www.nbss.ie/sites/default/files/publications/kwl_comprehension_strategy_handout__copy_2_0.pdf)

Step 2 As a class, brainstorm what students already know about Shakespeare, the Elizabethan era, or about either of the plays. Highlight the importance of prior learning and how life experience and making connections to what we already know is a very important part of learning. Write these ideas under the K column.

Note: This step can also be done after reading some of the information in this study guide to give students a bit of prior knowledge.

Step 3 Now have students generate a list of what else they want to learn or questions they want answered. Continue to demonstrate how to organise and categorise their suggestions and how to use this information to set a purpose for viewing. Note: There will be time for questions following the workshop in which students will be able to ask their questions and get answers from the facilitators. They may want to ask the facilitators about their careers, Shakespeare, or about performing Shakespeare.

Step 4 After the workshop, the class can discuss and record what they learned in the L column, especially paying attention to W questions that were answered during the workshop. Provide multiple opportunities for students to use the strategy in pairs or small groups until they can use the strategy independently. The L column can also serve as notes for review and revision.