

DLR - Artefact 4 (William Shakespeare doll) Transcript

[Audio: background music, light and upbeat. Person talking to camera.]

(Setting: Warehouse, historical dolls and a doll of William Shakespeare in a transparent case wearing a green outfit, with large buttons and a white collar.

(Large sign with text and images:

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Images include: The skeletal jaw of a dinosaur, Lady's Miao Boots (China/Thailand), children reading Viking books and examining ancient Viking pottery, child holding a rock.)

(Adam Bushnell) My name's Adam Bushnell and I'm an author from County Durham. Today I'm working with Durham Learning Resources and using some of their artefacts.

(Adam Bushnell) We have a puppet, a doll of Mr William Shakespeare. The bard himself.

(Action: Adam Bushnell gestures his hands towards William Shakespeare doll on his right.)

(Adam Bushnell) I love Shakespeare's plays; I think they are fantastic. My favourite, my personal favourite, is Macbeth. But I love the others as well. Now I wonder how many Shakespeare plays you know.

(Object: Camera zooms in on Shakespeare doll that is wearing a green outfit with a white collar.)

(Adam Bushnell) Maybe you could pause the video and see how many you can get a list off in the classroom. All of Shakespeare's plays they have a common pattern running through them. If there's an important speech made by one of the main characters, the first line has a capital letter. So, when you flick through Shakespeare's plays look for where there's a capital letter at the beginning of each line and that means it's an important speech.

(Adam Bushnell) For example, in Romeo and Juliet where they talk about the setting in fair Verona. That speech is made with capital letters. Any speech made with a

capital letter has been written in iambic Pentameter, that's very fancy talk. But if we put our hands against our chests and try and listen to a heartbeat.

(Action: Adam Bushnell places his hand on his chest and listens to his heartbeat.)

(Adam Bushnell) If you're not getting a heartbeat, maybe put your fingers against your jaw.

(Action: Adam Bushnell places his two fingers on his jaw.)

(Adam Bushnell) If you still can't find your heartbeat, maybe fingers against your wrist.

(Action: Adam Bushnell places his two fingers on his wrist.)

(Adam Bushnell) In those three locations try and find your heartbeat. If you can't feel one don't worry, you're not dead. It just takes a little bit of practice to find the heartbeat.

(Action: Adam Bushnell uses his hands to reinforce the three places you can feel your heartbeat- jaw, wrist and chest.)

(Adam Bushnell) When you do find the heartbeat, you'll notice that your heart is a muscle that expands and contracts.

"It goes de dum de dum"

(Action: Adam Bushnell open and closes his hand to represent the heart beating.)

(Adam Bushnell) The de dum rhythm is what another word is for iambic Pentameter. So, there's those important Shakespeare plays are written in iambic Pentameter. Which means, that they're written to a bouncy rhythm like this for example, in Shakespeare's Macbeth there's famous speech by the witches called the song of the witches.

(Adam Bushnell) It goes like this, 'double, double toil and trouble; fire burn and cauldron bubble. Fillet off a fenny snake, In the cauldron boil and bake.

(Action: Adam Bushnell bounces his hand up and down to represent the bouncy rhythm in the speech.)

(Adam Bushnell) On it goes following that bouncy rhythm, the de dum rhythm. It's the same rhythm that rappers use. That's why rappers often do this with their hands, to keep them on the de dum rhythm to keep them on the iambic Pentameter beat.

(Action: Adam Bushnell points his finger and moves it up and down to represent the 'de dum' rhythm.)

(Adam Bushnell) Which means that Shakespeare is easy to rap. If you were to take a famous poem. like the song of the witches, a famous speech from Shakespeare's plays. Look for those capital letters and you can rap it and go as fast as you want.

(Action: Adam Bushnell begins to rap 'Song of the Witches' quickly.)

(Adam Bushnell) Double, double toil and trouble; fire burn and cauldron bubble. Fillet of a fenny snake, In the cauldron boil and bake; Eye of newt and toe of bat, and on it goes like this. Perhaps you could take one of those speeches and take out some of the key words and replace them.

(Action: Adam Bushnell reaches his hand out and pulls it back to represent the word 'replace.')

(Adam Bushnell) In the song of the witches, where it says double double toil and trouble you could say double tubble fire and death for a horrible speech or double double unicorns and rainbows for a nice one. You could change the spell change the words and then rap it back to our bard William Shakespeare. I wonder how he would feel today if he knew that his work was inspiring rap.

(Action: Adam Bushnell looks to his right at the William Shakespeare doll in the case.)

(Text: Navy Blue Screen with text saying 'Durham Learning Resources' logo and a 'Durham County Council' logo.)