


Module 4: Examining Love, Friendship, and Power

Topic 3 Warm-Up: Did You Know?

Introduction



Did You Know?

Marlowe Raleigh Jonson Donne Lanier

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Click each of the folder tabs to examine some interesting facts about the lives of five English poets from the Renaissance.

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Topic 3 Warm-Up: Did You Know?

Marlowe


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Marlowe

Did you know that Christopher Marlowe . . .

- was born the same year as Shakespeare (1564) and worked in the same city (London)?
- may have worked as a government spy?
- was hailed by his contemporary writers as the greatest literary poet and dramatist of his time?



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Raleigh


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Raleigh

Did you know that Sir Walter Raleigh . . .

- is honored as the eponym of North Carolina's capital city, Raleigh?
- explored the New World and searched for the legendary city El Dorado?
- was friends with contemporary poet Edmund Spenser, whom he introduced to Queen Elizabeth?



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Jonson


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Jonson

Did you know that Ben Jonson . . .

- quit an apprenticeship in bricklaying to join the British army as a soldier?
- was nearly executed for killing a fellow actor in a duel?
- gained a following of young poets who called themselves the "Tribe of Ben"?



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Donne


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Donne

Did you know that John Donne . . .

- was the great-great-nephew of English writer and politician Sir Thomas More?
- fought alongside Sir Walter Raleigh against the Spanish in Cadiz?
- penned the phrases "no man is an island" and "for whom the bells tolls" in his poetry?



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Lanier


Did You Know?

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Lanier

Did you know that Amelia Lanier . . .

- had a son with Henry Carey, who was the first cousin of Queen Elizabeth (and the patron of Shakespeare's acting company, the Lord Chamberlain's Men)?
- opened a school for girls but was arrested twice over disputes regarding its rent?
- is suspected by some to be the "Dark Lady" referenced in several of Shakespeare's sonnets?



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