**William Shakespeare (1564-1616):**

**Research Task**

**In groups of two**, you will research Shakespeare’s life and times using the “Quill to Keyboard Treasure Hunt” and then write a summary of the most important information you found.

**PART 1:** For each topic, you must fill in the “Treasure Hunt” chart with the facts you uncover through research, as well as any additional information that you think it is important to know. Find **RELIABLE** sources on the web: look for “.edu” or “.org” NO WIKIPEDIA!

**PART 2:** You will write a **SUMMARY** (no more than one page) of the important information you have learnt about the life and times of Shakespeare. You do not have to mention everything; select the most important information and join it together in paragraph form. Organize your paragraphs by linking related information, or in chronological order.

**Writing a summary:**

**Planning:**  
1. **Choose an aspect** (angle) you are going to focus on.  
2. **Draft a topic sentence.** This tells the reader what aspect you are going to write about

3. **List supporting details**. Put them in chronological order, or by importance

**Writing:**  
1. Write your information paragraph using your topic sentence and the details you listed. DO NOT just join together a bunch of facts. Make sure your points are connected and follow a logical progression.  
2. Use connecting words (also, in addition to etc.) to join the points you are writing about.  
3. Write a final sentence that restates the main idea (your topic sentence) and summarizes the supporting details.

4. **RE-READ** and **EDIT** your work **CAREFULLY**!!!!!

**Some useful online sources:**

The Royal Shakespeare Company:

* <http://www.rsc.org.uk/>

BBC Bitesize student resources (search “Shakespeare”)

* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/gcsebitesize/>

BBC History

* <http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/people/william_shakespeare/>

Folger Publishing

* <http://www.folger.edu/shakespeares-life>
* <http://www.folger.edu/publishing-shakespeare>

How to cite a website (MLA):

Site publisher Last name, first name. Page title. Affiliation. Date cite was posted. Web. Date you accessed the site. <full web address>

Aristotle. *Poetics*. Trans. S. H. Butcher. *The Internet Classics Archive*. Web Atomic and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 13 Sept. 2007. Web. 4 Nov. 2008. ‹http://classics.mit.edu/›.

NOTE: If there is no site publisher, use “n.p.”, and if there is no publication date, write “n.d.”