



# SPEAK LIKE SHAKESPEARE

## COMMON PHRASES FROM SHAKESPEARE

You may not realize it, but William Shakespeare is the origin for a lot of phrases we hear today. When speaking like Shakespeare, you could use some of these phrases to add to your vocabulary.

All that glitters is not gold (The Merchant of Venice)  
All's well that ends well  
Bated breath (The Merchant of Venice)  
Be-all and the end-all (Macbeth)  
Break the ice (The Taming of the Shrew)  
Brevity is the soul of wit (Hamlet)  
Cold comfort (The Taming of the Shrew / King John)  
Conscience does make cowards of us all (Hamlet)  
Dead as a doornail (2 Henry VI)  
A dish fit for the gods (Julius Caesar)  
Devil incarnate (Titus Andronicus / Henry V)  
Eaten me out of house and home (2 Henry IV)  
Faint hearted (1 Henry VI)  
Fancy-free (A Midsummer Night's Dream)  
Fight till the last gasp (1 Henry VI)  
For goodness' sake (Henry VIII)  
Foregone conclusion (Othello)  
Full circle (King Lear)  
Give the devil his due (1 Henry IV)  
Good riddance (Troilus and Cressida)  
Jealousy is the green-eyed monster (Othello)  
It was Greek to me (Julius Caesar)  
Heart of gold (Henry V)  
'Tis high time (The Comedy of Errors)  
In a pickle (The Tempest)  
In my heart of hearts (Hamlet)  
In my mind's eye (Hamlet)  
Melted into thin air (The Tempest)  
More honored in the breach than in the observance (Hamlet)  
More in sorrow than in anger (Hamlet)  
More sinned against than sinning (King Lear)  
Much Ado About Nothing (title)  
Naked truth (Love's Labour's Lost)

Neither rhyme nor reason (As You Like It)  
Not slept one wink (Cymbeline)  
One fell swoop (Macbeth)  
One that loved not wisely but too well (Othello)  
Time is out of joint (Hamlet)  
Out of the jaws of death (Twelfth Night)  
Own flesh and blood (Hamlet)  
Star-crossed lovers (Romeo and Juliet)  
Parting is such sweet sorrow (Romeo and Juliet)  
A plague on both your houses (Romeo and Juliet)  
Play fast and loose (King John)  
Pomp and circumstance (Othello)  
Salad days (Antony and Cleopatra)  
Shall I compare thee to a summer's day (Sonnets)  
Sick at heart (Hamlet)  
Something wicked this way comes (Macbeth)  
A sorry sight (Macbeth)  
Sweets to the sweet (Hamlet)  
Set my teeth on edge (1 Henry IV)  
Too much of a good thing (As You Like It)  
Wear my heart upon my sleeve (Othello)  
What's done is done (Macbeth)  
Wild-goose chase (Romeo and Juliet)  
Witching time of night (Hamlet)  
Working-day world (As You Like It)

**10/10/10 is Speak Like Shakespeare Day.**  
**Celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the San Diego Shakespeare Society**

**Raising The Bard**

**WWW.SANDIEGOSHAKESPEARESOCIETY.ORG**