Questions: Shakespeare and Education

no writing required: class discussion W 3/23/16

In our discussion it would be good to hear about such things as SOME of the following:

• What plays, at what levels of study, have you been assigned? (In what schools and what countries were those assignments made? American public/private? Foreign? International? Schools in/outside former British Commonwealth countries? etc.)

• How have they been pitched to you -- with what explanation? Why were you said to be reading/performing Shakespeare?

• Have the plays been an obligatory part of any examinations that have had an impact on your educational future (e.g. CEEB, Regents', Advanced Placement, International Diploma)?

• At your school, were students on different "tracks" assigned different texts? (For example, were students in "advanced" or "college preparatory" sections given Hamlet while others got Of Mice and Men?)

• What acting opportunities were open to you?

• So what do you think about the institutionalization of S. in school curricula? Valuable? Cumbersome but necessary? Worthless? For what ends?

Any suggestive, intriguing, salacious, or funny anecdotes associated with the teaching and study of S. would be much appreciated. Nobody will be quoted.