

Listen and Respond: Shakespeare in a Diverse World



This activity can be used before viewing *Henry V*, but it can also be used before Part Three of the film and pairs well with the “Exploring Nationalism: Leagues and Leeks” activity.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Identify why Shakespeare’s works still matter today
- Recognize the different ways Shakespeare’s works can be understood
- Hypothesize different methods to engage with Shakespeare’s works

INSTRUCTIONS

Have students watch the video from Throughlines featuring Professor Ruben Espinosa (link below) and respond to the discussion questions below. Ask students to explore the questions ahead of time so they know what to listen for in the video.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What did Professor Espinosa offer as his thoughts on “Why Shakespeare?” and “Why should Shakespeare matter to us?” Do you agree with him? Why or why not?
- Do you think there is value in studying Shakespeare in our present moment? Why or why not?
- What does Professor Espinosa argue are the modern-day parallels regarding the English spoken by non-native speakers in *Henry V*?
- How do you think you can “unearth” a Shakespeare of your own by looking at the text through your own lens?

RESOURCES

Immigration and *Henry V*. Throughlines.
throughlines.org/suite-content/immigration-and-henry-v

