LEARN TO SPEAK LIKE SHAKESPEARE

THEE = = THOU = = THY = = THINE = = YE

NEVER use **you** except when addressing someone superior to you~~such as the Queen or a noble! In Elizabethan times, such a mistake might have cost you your head!!
Thou is used instead of **you** as the subject in a sentence:
THOU ART A KNAVE! (You are no good!)
Thee is used instead of **you** as the object in a sentence:
I SHALT GIVE IT TO THEE. (I shall give it to you.)
Thy is used instead of the word **your**: thy house, thy dog, thy book.
Thine is used before words beginning with a vowel: thine apple.
Ye is used instead of saying **all of you**: Ye all shalt come.

CONTRACTIONS

Some of our contractions that we use today are **don't** and **won't** and **can't**.
The Elizabethans had some different ones that we no longer use;
here are some of them:

Tis- It is **T'would**- It would **T'will**- It will **Is't**- Is it

ME = = METHINKS

The peasants and simple people used the word **me** a lot and in sentences that started with the word **I :**

I stepped me to the ale house. I goes me to me neighbor's house. I hope me to have a good day.

The peasants would also say **methinks** instead of **I think:**

Methinks thou art a clamperton! Methinks me knows the lad. Methinks Fair Mistress Brown art a shrew!!

HELLO = = GOODBYE

Here are some of the greetings the Elizabethans used matched with the sort of phrases we would use today:

Good Morrow, Mistress Patterson.	Good morning, Mrs. Patterson.
God ye good den, Mistress Wolfe.	Have a good day, Mrs. Wolfe.
How now, Wench?	Hey girl! What's happening?
Out upon thee, sirrah?	Get lost, Mister!
Fare ye well.	I hope everything goes well, sir.
Save thee, Gentlewoman.	God bless and keep you, miss.
Heigh ho! Come thee hither!	Hey! Come over here!
How sayest thou!? How now?	How's everything going for you?

INVECTIVES = = ABUSES

Elizabethans LOVED to think up clever and terrible things to call each other. They thought it was a measure of a man's wit (brains, intelligence). The better a man was at name-calling, the wittier or smarter he must be. Here are some examples:

NOTICE HOW IMAGINATION AND IMAGES WERE THEIR AMMUNITION!

day brained (dumb)
dried cow's tongue (disgusting)
clamperton (dummy)
prattler (phony)
a pox on thee (I hope you get smallpox!)
greasy tallow (slick)
knave (dishonest)
rapscallion (rascal)
shandy (empty – headed)
snudge (spoilsport, cheapskate)

abbey blubber: a fat lazy person, i.e. a typical monk to the anti - Catholic Elizabethan in Protestant England.
runagate: a renegade who has been chased through city gates; or in other words, he's been "chased out of town."
changeling: the idea here is that the fairies would steal beautiful children and leave stupid, ugly ones in their place. Therefore the fairies must have taken a beautiful child and left stupid, ugly you in its place!

Doth == Hath == Art

These are the main verbs that thy used differently

I art	(I do)	He doth	(I have)	He hath	(I am)	He art
I be	Thou dost	She doth	Thou hath	She hath	Thou art	She art

Phrases == Expressions

Today we start many sentences with such terms and expressions as: well, golly, darn, my goodness, good night, gee whiz, shucks. These express our feelings about what we're about to say. Here are some of the expressions the Elizabethans used to start their sentences:

Prithee…….Please! I beg of you! Listen to me!
I Faith…….I swear it on the Bible! Honest!
Fie on thee!….Drop dead! Shame on you! Darn you!
Bless the mark!…Yuck! That's disgusting!
Right on!…… Isn't that the truth! For sure! You bet!
Marry, quoth 'I …… Well, well! Now how about that!
Thou art cupshot!…..You're acting crazy!
Inkhorn terms!…Fancy talk! You're overdoing it!
What hath thee wrought!…. Oh no! What have you done now!?
Anon….Sure! Sure! You bet! Some time….maybe. Wait a sec.
I marvel much!….What! I am surprised! Egads! No kidding!
By my fay!….By my faith! You've got to be kidding! No joke?
Hark on that!…..Can you believe it? Wow!
Beshrew me…. Darn it! Stupid me!!!
Alas…Oh no! Darn it! Shucks!
Mark thee this!…Look at that!
T'would be folly!…. That's crazy!
Forsooth…..Oh no! This is terrible!
Not a whit...Big deal. I could care less!
By my troth…. I swear it!
Nay……no
Aye….yes

TITLES AND NAMES

Other than "Mr., Mrs., Miss, and Ms." We don't do much with the title today. BUT THE ELIZABETHANS DID!!! We mostly use names; they always called a person something:

Madam….used with any grown woman except a peasant lady
Sirrah…used to address any man
Lass….a young lady or woman without gray hair
Gaffer…Grandfather
Gentleman….any man who is not a peasant
Master….any man who is not a peasant
Goodman…used with peasant men
Wench…a young peasant girl; a servant girl
Mistress…used with any woman
Cousin…used with any good friend
Gammer…Grandmother
Gentlewoman…any woman who is not a peasant
Fair Damsel….an attractive young lady of the upper class
Goodwife…used with peasant women
Magistra….Teacher
Your Worship….used to show respect to someone above you such as a minister, official, the mayor, etc.