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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/11/2021_2022__E5_8F_A3_E8_AF_ADFest_c8_11556.htm Shakespeares Birthday April 23The actual date of Shakespeares birth is not known, but, traditionally, April 23, St Georges Day, has been Shakespeares accepted birthday, and a house on Henley Street in Stratford, owned by Williams father, John, is accepted as Shakespeares birth place. If Shakespeare was indeed born on Sunday, April 23, the next feast day would have been St. Marks Day on Tuesday the twenty-fifth. St. Marks Day was still held to be unlucky, as it had been before the Reformation, when altars and crucifixes used to be draped in black cloth, and when some claimed to see in the churchyard the spirits of those doomed to die in that year. William Shakespeare was born in 1564, in Stratford-upon-Avon. Located in the centre of England, the town was (and still is) an important river-crossing settlement and market centre. His father, John, trained as a glove-maker and married Mary Arden, the daughter of Robert Arden, a farmer from the nearby village of Wilmcote. Rear garden of Shakespeares BirthplaceWe do not know when or why Shakespeare left Stratford for London, or what he was doing before becoming a professional actor and dramatist in the capital. There are various traditions and stories about the so-called lost years between 1585 and 1592, a period for which there is virtually no evidence concerning his life. One tale tells how he was caught poaching deer in Charlecote Park, near Stratford, and went off to London to avoid prosecution. A plausible early tradition

claims Shakespeare was a schoolmaster for some years. When he was growing up, drama was a significant part of Stratford's social life. Not only did local people put on amateur shows, but the town was visited regularly by London-based companies of actors and Shakespeare may have joined one of them. Shakespeare's first printed works were two long poems, *Venus and Adonis* (1593) and *The Rape of Lucrece* (1594). In 1594, Shakespeare joined others in forming a new theatre company, under the patronage of the Lord Chamberlain, with Richard Burbage as its leading actor. For almost twenty years Shakespeare was its regular dramatist, producing on average two plays a year. Burbage played roles such as Richard III, Hamlet, Othello and Lear. Drama was a nation-wide activity in Shakespeare's time but only in London were there buildings designed specifically for performing plays. Performances took place in the afternoons, with the actors playing on a raised stage which projected halfway into the theatre. All the women's roles were performed by boys. The audience, which either stood in the yard around the stage or sat in the galleries, represented a wide social mix of people, but actors were generally regarded as rogues and vagabonds. Some of Shakespeare's most famous tragedies were written in the early 1600s, including *Hamlet* and, after James I's accession, *Othello*, *King Lear* and *Macbeth*. Holy Trinity Church, where Shakespeare is buried, and the River Avon

From around 1611 Shakespeare seems largely to have disengaged himself from the London theatre world and to have spent his time at his Stratford house, New Place. In March 1616 he signed his will, in which he left substantial property and other bequests to his

family and friends, including theatre colleagues in the Kings Men. Shakespeare died in Stratford, aged fifty-two, on 23 April 1616, and was buried in Holy Trinity Church two days later. Within a short time a monument to him was put up, probably by his family, on the wall close to his grave. His widow, Anne, died in 1623 and was buried beside him. Shakespeares family line came to an end with the death of his grand-daughter Elizabeth in 1670. 100Test 下载频道开通，各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com