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# BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

## Shakespeare Speaks

### All that glitters is not gold: Lesson plan

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The video to accompany this lesson plan can be found here:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/course/shakespeare/unit-1/session-5>

#### **Aims: Students will...**

- listen for gist and detail in the context of a video on Shakespeare's life, language and plays.
- understand the meaning, use and modern form of the phrase **All that glitters is not gold**.
- be able to understand and use idioms and phrases relating to appearance.

#### **Task A: Lead in and gist**

- Start video at 01.24 and pause it. In pairs students describe the three boxes on the screen and discuss which one they would choose to open and why.
- Elicit answers from the class and check the adjectives 'gold', 'silver' and 'lead'.
- Hand out worksheet (pages three and four of this document) and give students some time to read Task A. Check students understand the meaning of 'bargain' and 'deceiving'.
- Play the video from beginning to end and students choose the best summary and why.
- Students check answers in pairs before comparing as a class.

#### **Answer:**

B) Appearances can be deceiving. Shakespeare's daughter and the Prince of Morocco both learn that just because something looks valuable, it doesn't mean that it really is.

#### **Task B: Detail**

- Give students a few minutes to read the questions and then play the video again for students to mark true or false. Encourage them to also note down why.
- Students discuss answers in pairs and then check answers as a class

#### **Answers**

- 1) Shakespeare's daughter bought an expensive gold ring. **False (She bought the ring from the market, because it was cheaper than the gold merchant.)**
- 2) Shakespeare thinks his daughter is a little naive. **True (Will says 'My dear daughter, you have a lot to learn.')**
- 3) Shakespeare's daughter is attracted to things which look beautiful. **True (Daughter chooses the gold box because it's the most beautiful.)**

- 4) In Shakespeare's play, The Merchant of Venice, Portia hides inside one of three boxes. **False (There's a picture of Portia in the box - not the lady herself!)**
- 5) In Shakespeare's play, the Prince of Morocco chooses the right box, so he can marry Portia. **False (The prince chooses the wrong box – so he cannot marry Portia.)**

**Task C: Language: All that glitters is not gold**

- Students read the sentences and discuss answers in pairs from memory.
- Play the narrator section from 02.25 to 03.04 for students to check answers.

**Answers**

- 1) 'All that glitters is not gold' means that **not everything** that glitters is gold.
- 2) 'All that glitters is not gold' warns us that: Things that look good on the surface are **not always** good on the inside.
- 3) 'All that glitters is not gold' can be used to talk about **people and things**.
- 4) **Glisters** is NOT normally used by modern English speakers.

**Task D: Discussion**

- Give students time to prepare and then put them into new groups to share stories.
- Feedback answers and focus on any good examples of language and any errors to correct

**Task E: Vocabulary Extension**

- Tell students that you are going to explore some more English sayings. Students work in groups to decide which phrases have a similar meaning to **all that glitters is not gold**.
- Check answers as a class and then students discuss in groups the other sayings.

<b>Similar meaning</b>	<b>Different meaning</b>
<p><b>don't judge a book by its cover</b> you shouldn't judge the value of something or someone based on their appearance</p>	<p><b>every cloud has a silver lining</b> there's a positive side to every sad or difficult situation</p>
<p><b>looks can be deceiving</b> people and things are often different from how they appear</p>	<p><b>as good as gold</b> very, very good</p>
<p><b>beauty is only skin deep</b> a person's character is more important than their appearance</p>	<p><b>worth its weight in gold</b> very useful or valuable</p>

- Play one of the vocab revision games from the worksheet **Eight Vocabulary Activities**
- In new groups students discuss the **extra discussion questions**. (You could also use one of the topics to set up a class debate.) Carry out error correction and praise good language.

# All that glitters is not gold: Worksheet one



## Task A: Gist

Choose the best summary of the story

- A) Shakespeare's daughter gets a bargain.
- B) Appearances can be deceiving.
- C) Shakespeare buys his daughter a present.

## Task B: Detail

True or false?



- 1) Shakespeare's daughter bought an expensive gold ring.
- 2) Shakespeare thinks his daughter is a little naive.
- 3) Shakespeare's daughter is attracted to things which look beautiful.
- 4) In Shakespeare's play, The Merchant of Venice, Portia hides inside one of three boxes.
- 5) In Shakespeare's play, the Prince of Morocco chooses the right box, so he can marry Portia.

## Task C: Language - All that glitters is not gold

Circle the correct word

- 1) 'All that glitters is not gold' means that **everything** / **not everything** / **nothing** that glitters is gold.
- 2) 'All that glitters is not gold' warns us that: Things that look good on the surface are **always** / **never** / **not always** good on the inside.
- 3) 'All that glitters is not gold' can be used to talk about **people** / **things** / **people and things**.
- 4) **Glisters** / **glitters** / **glistens** is NOT normally used by modern English speakers.



# All that glitters is not gold: Worksheet two

## Task D: Discussion

Talk about a time when you realised that all that glitters is not gold. For example:

- You bought something and then found out that it is not as valuable as it looks!
- You met someone who looked great on the surface, but their looks were deceiving!
- You admired the glamorous life of a famous person, but then found out that their reality is very different!

## Task E - Sayings and expressions

Here are some other phrases: Do they have a similar meaning or different meaning to all that glitters is not gold?

- a) Appearances can be deceiving.
- b) Every cloud has a silver lining.
- c) Don't judge a book by its cover.
- d) She's as good as gold.
- e) Beauty is only skin deep.
- f) She's worth her weight in gold.



## Extra discussion questions

- Do you agree that **beauty is only skin deep**? Why?
- Have you ever **judged a book by its cover**?
- In which situations are appearances important and when are they not?
- What can you tell about a person from their appearance?

