Library Home Page:  https://bmhsresearch.wikispaces.com  Access the catalog, databases, ebooks and Lib Guides from this link. Pull down the English Language Arts tab on the Lib Guide page and choose Romeo & Juliet.

Use the BMHS online catalog to find books and electronic resource in this library. Below are examples of what is available.

**Print Sources**

**Regular Collection**:

Shakespeare information is in the 822.3 and 822.33 section.

- 792 WOO  A History of the Elizabethan Theater
- 792.09 ALL  Shakespeare’s Globe
- 822.3 GAR  Shakespeare and Modern Culture
- 822.33 SHA  How to Write About William Shakespeare
- 822.33 SHA ROM  Understanding Romeo and Juliet

_Type Elizabethan England in the catalog search box for a list of good resources_

**Reference Collection**:

- REF 822.33 SHA  The Oxford Companion to Shakespeare
- REF 822.33 SHA  Shakespeare’s World and Work (3 vols)
- REF 822.33 SHA  Shakespeare for Students, Book One

- REF 940.2 GRE  Encyclopedia of the Renaissance (6 vols)
- REF 940.2 GRE  The Renaissance and Early Modern Era, VOL 2
- REF 940.2 SID  Handbook to Life in Renaissance Europe
- REF 942.055 ELI  Elizabethan World (3 vols)

**e-Books**:

Link to e-books on the left side of the library home page.

- **Gale Virtual Reference Library – Subject encyclopedias**
  Choose History on the left and then link to the Renaissance: an Encyclopedia for Students. Type your topic in the search box on the left that says “Search within this publication.”

- **Infobase Publishing e-books** - Single titles on various topics. Choose Literature on the left and then Drama for titles about Shakespeare’s writing.

  - Username: indian  Password: 01821
Online Resources

Authoritative Websites:

Elizabethan England Access many good links from this site.
Shakespeare's Globe Theater
Shakespeare’s Life and Times Link to the different categories on the bar under the title.
Shakespeare's Life and Times Link to different subjects on the left hand side of the page.
Shakespeare On Line Link to specific topics on the left side of the page. Other options at the bottom.

Alternative Search Engines:

Instagrok - Visual way for finding information on your topics. Your results will include websites and sometimes there are videos and images.
Google Scholastic - Has links with substance without having to sort through a lot of information you don’t want.

Databases: Link to Databases on the left side of the home page.

颙 Access to passwords for all the databases will be at the top of the page. Link to “Databases and e-Book passwords” You will need the password billerica from home.

1. Gale’s Databases:
  颙 Choose: History Resource Center: U.S. and then bullet World
   Use Elizabethan England as your search term.
   Password is Indian

2. ABC-CLIO Access All Databases - Check the following databases for appropriate resources:
  颙 Daily Life Through History and World History: the Modern Era
   User name: billerica2 and password: billerica2

3. EBSCO Literary Reference Center Great source for literary topics.
   User name: billerica Password: indian
Fact Sheet to Develop a Thesis Statement

TOPIC QUESTION

KEY WORDS and/or IDEAS to guide your research:

1._____________________________________________________
2._____________________________________________________
3._____________________________________________________
4._____________________________________________________
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18._____________________________________________________
19._____________________________________________________
20._____________________________________________________
**Step by Step: Writing a Thesis Paper**

_____ Make sure you understand the assignment and the vocabulary that is necessary for success.

_____ Pick a topic and read a brief article from a general source, like an encyclopedia, for basic information and for some keywords.

_____ Ask a question related to something you’ve read about your topic that can lead to a thesis.

_____ Begin to create a thesis statement you think you can prove.

_____ Gather information and take notes that will support your thesis using print, databases, and authoritative websites. Don’t forget to keep track of your sources.

_____ Create a graphic organizer or outline to choose and organize the information you have gathered that will support your thesis.

_____ Write a rough draft using your organizer or outline.

_____ Make sure your information supports your thesis and is logically organized.

_____ Conference with your teacher or peers.

_____ **REVISE, REVISE, REVISE, REVISE, REVISE, REVISE, REVISE**

_____ Submit the rough draft to *Turnitin*.

_____ Use MLA Style for your work cited page. Look for *Citing Your Sources* on the BMHS Library page. Look for the *BMHS Guide to Citing Your Sources* link for examples and directions on how to create specific entries. Also, *KnightCite* and *Son of Citation* will help you create an entry.
Definitions

Authoritative___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Database ________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Keyword___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________

Fact or Thesis?

Example of a fact:

“The number of cases of skin cancer per thousand U.S. citizens has increased steadily since the 1920s.”

This could not be a thesis unless you were presenting a scientific essay on skin cancer rates. In such an essay you would need to defend your methodology for determining the rate of skin cancer.

Example of a thesis:

“The rates of skin cancer have increased steadily since the 1920s which show the danger of the American obsession with getting a ‘healthy’ tan.”
**Questions You May Ask to Help Formulate a Thesis Statement**

Do the lovers underestimate the hatred between their fathers and overestimate the power of their love to overcome the family feud?

Is it fate or destiny that controls the end result of Romeo and Juliet’s union?

Who is the better advisor/friend, Mercutio or the Nurse?

Who do you think is the more admirable or stronger person Romeo or Juliet?

Who is a better friend Mercutio or the Friar?

Does religion play any part in the play?

Opera, play, movie, Broadway musical. Which conveys the best sense of the Shakespearean play?

Compare the theater world then with the theater world now. Which has more appeal?

Would you have enjoyed living in Elizabethan England rather than now?

How does everyday life then compare with life today? Pick some particular activities to compare such as education, jobs, household tasks, recreation, etc.

Would Romeo fit the definition of hero? Is there any one character in the play you would describe as a hero?

Can you compare Greek drama to Shakespeare’s works?

Why has *Romeo and Juliet* remained so popular over the years?

Aside from the fact that Juliet believes she’s in love with Romeo, would Paris have been a better person for her to have married?