



King Lear Filling in the Playbill

Imagine that your school's drama club or department is staging a production of *King Lear*, chosen because of its theme of parents and children. Your job is to create the playbill, or program, for the performances, which is handed to everyone in the audience as they enter the theatre. The playbill includes a three- to four-sentence summary of each act's action, and it will guide their understanding of the plot as they watch the performance. Make sure your summaries reflect the theme of parents and children.

ACT 1:

When King Lear divides his kingdom among his three daughters, his loyal nobleman, Kent, objects, and he is banished as a consequence of his disagreement. Lear's daughters Goneril and Regan scheme against him as his third daughter, Cordelia, is sent away to France without a dowry. In the meantime, Edmund, Gloucester's bastard son, plots to turn his father against Edgar, his older brother. While Lear is staying at Goneril's castle, we meet his friend, the Fool, who criticizes Lear's poor judgment.

ACT 2:

ACT 3:

ACT 4:

ACT 5:

RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.

W.11-12.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.