

# Spotlight Guide 2021 - 2022



## Henry V

by William Shakespeare

King Henry IV is dead and Prince Hal, fresh to the throne, attempts to prove himself a worthy ruler by brazenly laying claim to parts of France. When France mocks his claim, he leads the English forces across the Channel. Now this inexperienced new ruler must prove he is fit to unite his country and defeat the French at the Battle of Agincourt – against all odds. Don't miss this epic, thrilling, and powerful conclusion to the rise of Henry V – packed with battles, betrayals, comedy, and love!

## Lesson Plan and Activities

**Page to Stage Lesson Plan** - In this lesson, students will read and analyze an excerpt from Act I, Prologue of William Shakespeare's *Henry V* using the included handouts.

**Shakespeare Taboo** - Students will gain a new appreciation for Shakespeare's contribution to the English language.

**Paraphrasing** - Students unlock Shakespeare's text by rewording of the meaning of the lines into their vernacular.

**Write a Review** - After seeing the production, have each student write a review of Orlando Shakes' production of *Henry V*

### Discussion & Themes -

1. Why did Henry disguise himself as a soldier the night before the battle at Agincourt? What did he learn from his masquerade?
2. What messages does Henry V convey in the play by Shakespeare about the nature and consequences of war? Is it a means to a valuable end?
3. What is the dramatic function of the Chorus? Why do you think Shakespeare uses a Chorus in this play and not other plays?
4. What kind of king is Henry? Is he a compassionate and merciful Christian monarch, or a ruthless and cunning Machiavellian prince?

## Florida Standards

LAFS.910.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details  
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LAFS.1112.SL.1: Comprehension and Collaboration  
LAFS.910.W.1: Text Types and Purposes  
LAFS.1112.RL.1: Key Ideas and Details  
LAFS.910.RL.3: Integration of Knowledge and Ideas  
TH.912.F.2: Careers in and related to the arts  
TH.68.S.1: The arts are inherently experiential



**PG-13**

Language, Stage Fighting and Death, Crude Humor, Suggestive Themes, Use of Alcohol, Violent Reference

Most appropriate for Grade 8 and up. Children under 5 will not be admitted to the theater.