Structure of a Shakespearean Drama

1.

2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drama</th>
<th>Life/ Universal law of living</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Act I</td>
<td>Birth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act II</td>
<td>Growth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act III</td>
<td>Maturity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act IV</td>
<td>Decline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act V</td>
<td>Death</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Functions of each act

Act I – Introduction

A.

B.

C.

D.

E.

Act II – Rising Action

A.

B.

Act III – Climax

A.
Conventions of the Elizabethan Stage

What is a convention?

1. Play within a play

2. Use of Disguises

3. Love at first sight
4. Fluid Action

5. Asides

6. Suspension of disbelief