Shakespeare and Drama
Hi guys, before going through my works, I must tell you something about myself first……..

... and drama.
It was there that I learnt about classic literature and drama.

I studied at a Grammar School at Stratford, where I was born. Something like a Liceo Classico…
From Seneca whatever made tragedies excellent and the importance of stage effects such as: bloody scenes, ghosts, macabre and gloomy atmospheres.

From Plautus I learnt all the secrets about writing comedies.
I was familiar with **Aristotle** too……

But I found his rules not very effective on stage……

How could a play be interesting, if it had to last one day, with one plot and one scene only! I needed more creative space.
By the ways, I borrowed from Aristotle the concept of drama!

And I know you are familiar with it, as you have already studied it with your prof. Gioffrè!

Do you remember? The world is organized in a perfect hierarchy, the so called Chain of Being.
Even man’s society is modelled according to the order of that hierarchy, which is considered perfect, do you remember why?

Because it is a work of God. God made it so.
Hence, the dramatic action consists in the breaking of that order.....

By the hand of somebody who aims at taking advantage from that collapsing.

It is a vile action, as it is against God himself.

This character is called: villain.
So, if you plan to kill your king to take his place, like Macbeth

or, if you are jealous of your brother’s good luck and you want to get rid of him like Claudius

Or, if you cannot stand your friend’s good fortune and you work to see him disgraced like Iago

You are by no means a VILLAIN!
Now, can you tell me, who was the first «villain» ever?

You have to go much back in time……..

Yes, it was Lucifer!
Lucifer was once a beautiful angel who defied God and fell from grace.

He is often identified as the serpent in the Garden of Eden.

Through seduction and temptation he aims at breaking the natural order of things.

Thus causing chaos!
This is how a villain works in a play:

There is no drama without a villain!
INTRODUCTION

ACT I

RISING ACTION

ACT II

CLIMAX

ACT III

MOMENT OF FINAL SUSTPENSE

FALLING ACTION

ACT IV

COMPLICATION

ACT V

CATASTROPHE
In short, a play consists in the breaking the given order....

...by the workings of a villain, till a new, different order is re-created.

And this is what drama is about.
You have to know that at my times there was no copyright...

..so, ehm, I am not, actually, original.

I mean, I used somebody else’s plots, and made them better. Copying is art in itself, isn’t it?
For example, I thought about writing Romeo and Juliet after reading Italian writer Matteo Bandello’s version…

…or I made my Hamlet after «the Spanish Tragedy», which was, actually a hit…

But, let me say, I was way smarter and made things better than them, that is why I have become worldly famous!
I have been also fortunate to live in the golden age of drama.

Theatres flourished all over London.

My company and I had one....
The GLOBE
Do you want to know why I called it «The Globe»?

Because «all world is a stage»!!

But this is another story, oops….ppt!
APPLAUSE!!!