

Tudor Courtship Challenge

ANNE HATHAWAY'S
COTTAGE & GARDENS

Test your knowledge of Tudor life with our True or False challenge!

1. Young William Shakespeare was just 18 when he married Anne Hathaway. True/False
2. William had a secret second marriage after Anne died. True/False
3. During a 'hand-fasting' ceremony, it was traditional for the couple to be chased by geese. True/False
4. Tudor women would display their bare arms as a sign of their love during the wedding ceremony. True/False
5. Around a quarter of all Tudor marriages were re-marriages. True/False
6. A Tudor bride would wear a white wedding dress. True/False
7. In William Shakespeare's play, Romeo fell in love with Judith. True/False
8. A popular gift for brides to give to young men was a knitted hat. True/False

Circle your
answers then turn
over to see if you
are right!



Shakespeare
birthplace trust

How did you do? Did you spot that all the answers were False!

1. True – William was 18 and Anne was 26 (and pregnant!).
2. False – William died in 1616, many years before Anne did; she lived on until August 1623.
3. False – although, they may chase after you anyway! Especially on a farm.
4. False - It was considered very improper for a woman to show bare arms or legs.
5. True - re-marriage was an important survival strategy in Tudor times; deaths following childbirth saw young widowers looking for a new wife to look after him, the home and any possible children; widowed mothers needed new husbands to provide for them and their children.
6. False – this tradition only became popular after Queen Victoria wore white to marry. A Tudor bride would wear her best kirtle, a shift underneath and probably some flowers in her hair.
7. False – the love of Romeo's life was Juliet.
8. False – well, a bride may have given her beloved a new hat (it was the law after all for men and boys to wear a hat), but we don't believe it was a popular custom.

