



“A rich jewel in an Ethiop’s ear:” an original line or familiar find?

1. Read lines 51-60 in Act 1, Scene 5 in *Romeo and Juliet*. Identify the simile(s) that Romeo uses to describe Juliet.

2. Read Gough’s poem “Encomiums on the Beauty of His Mistress.” Do you see any similarities between the two poems? Write down the lines that are similar and record any changes you notice.

Similarities	Differences

3. Shakespeare’s play was first published in 1597 and Gough’s 1639 text was reprinted in this edition in 1684. Knowing this, what conclusions can you come to about writing and authorship in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries? (Hint: Is this plagiarism? Explain why or why not.)
