

Shakespearean "Conversations" **An Insulting Conversation**

A: Thou damned and luxurious mountain goat.

B: Let's meet as little as we can.

A: More of your conversation would infect my brain.

B: Away! Thou art poison to my blood.

A: Why, thou clay-brained guts, thou knotty-pated fool, thou whoreson obscene greasy tallow-catch.

B: Hang yourself, you muddy conger, hang yourself!

A: Thou sodden-witted lord! Thou hast no more brain than I have in mine elbows.

B: Go forward, and be choked with thy ambition!

A: Teeth hadst thou in thy head when thou wast born to signify thou came to bite the world.

B: Your heart is crammed with arrogancy, spleen and pride.

A: Thou art a boil, a plague-sore, an embossed carbuncle in my corrupted blood

B: There is not yet so ugly a fiend of hell as thou shall be.

A: Ah, you whoreson loggerhead! You were born to do me shame.

B: Come, you are a tedious fool.

A: Beg that thou may have leave to hang thyself.

B: Tempt not too much the hatred of my spirit; for I am sick when I do look on thee.

A: Vile worm, thou wast o'erlook'd even in thy birth.

B: Go thou and fill another room in hell.

A: Heaven truly knows that thou are as false as hell.

B: Thou lump of foul deformity.

A: Thou detestable maw, thou womb of death.

B: Away, you three-inch fool.

A: Hang cur! hang, you whoreson, insolent noisemaker.

B: Would thou wert clean enough to spit upon!



Shakespeare Insult Kit



Shakespeare loved to use insults in his plays, and you will find many in all his plays. To create a Shakespearean insult... Combine one word from each of the three columns below, prefaced with "Thou." For example, "Thou gleeking beetle-headed flap-dragon!"



Column 1



artless



bawdy



beslubbering



bootless



churlish



cockered



clouted



craven



currish



dankish



dissembling



droning



errant



fawning



fobbing



froward



frothy



gleeking



goatish



gorbellied



impertinent



infectious



jarring



loggerheaded



lumpish



mammering

mangled



mewling



paunchy



Pribbling

Column 2

base-court

bat-fowling

beef-witted

beetle-headed

boil-brained

clapper-clawed

clay-brained

common-kissing

rook-pated

dismal-dreaming

dizzy-eyed

doghearted

dread-bolted

earth-vexing

elf-skinned

fat-kidneyed

fen-sucked

flap-mouthed

fly-bitten

folly-fallen

fool-born

full-gorged

guts-gripping

half-faced

hasty-witted

hedge-born

hell-hated

idle-headed

ill-breeding

ill-nurtured

Column 3

apple-john

baggage

barnacle

bladder

boar-pig

bugbear

bum-bailey

canker-blossom

clack-dish

clotpole

coxcomb

codpiece

death-token

dewberry

flap-dragon

flax-wench

flirt-gill

foot-licker

fustilarian

giglet

gudgeon

haggard

harpy

hedge-pig

horn-beast

hugger-mugger

jothead

ewdster

lout

maggot-pie



Column 1



puking



puny



qualling



rank



reeky



roguish



ruttish



saucy



spleeny



spongy



surly



tottering



unmuzzled



vain



venomed



villainous



warped



wayward



weedy



yeasty

Column 2

knotty-pated

milk-livered

motley-minded

onion-eyed

plume-plucked

pottle-deep

pox-marked

reeling-ripe

rough-hewn

rude-growing

rump-fed

shard-borne

sheep-biting

spur-galled

swag-bellied

tardy-gaited

tickle-brained

toad-spotted

unchin-snouted

weather-bitten

Column 3

malt-worm

mammet

measle

minnow

miscreant

moldwarp

mumble-news

nut-hook

pigeon-egg

pignut

puttock

pumpion

ratsbane

scut

skainsmate

strumpet

varlot

vassal

whew-face

wagtail

