



**FAKULTA
HUMANITNÍCH STUDIÍ**
Univerzita Karlova

Zadání přijímací zkoušky – náhradní termín 11. 7. 2016

Text k překladu:

M. W. MacCallum: *Shakespeare's Roman Plays and their Background.*

Roman Plays in the Sixteenth Century

Plays that dealt with the History of Rome were frequent on the Elizabethan stage, and all portions of it were laid under contribution. Subjects were taken from legends of the dawn like the story of Lucretia, and from rumours of the dusk like the story of Lucina; from Roman pictures of barbarian allies like Massinissa in the South, or barbarian antagonists like Caractacus in the North; as well as from the intimate records of home affairs and the careers of the great magnates of the Republic or Empire. But these plays belong more distinctively to the Stuart than to the Tudor section of the period loosely named after Elizabeth, and few have survived that were composed before the beginning of the seventeenth century. For long the Historical Drama treated by preference the traditions and annals of the island realm, and only by degrees did "the matter of Britain" yield its pride of place to "the matter of Rome the Grand." Moreover, the earlier Roman Histories are of very inferior importance, and none of them reaches even a moderate standard of merit till the production of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar in 1600 or 1601. In this department Shakespeare had not the light to guide him that he found for his English Histories in Marlowe's Edward II., or even in such plays as The Famous Victories of Henry V. The extant pieces that precede his first experiment, seem only to be groping their way, and it is fair to suppose that the others which have been lost did no better.

Otázky k textu:

1. Z jakého období římských dějin čerpaly podle autora alžbětinské historické hry své náměty?
2. Jaké byly hry s náměty z římských dějin před uvedením *Julia Caesara*?
3. Byly dříve upřednostňovány náměty z britských, nebo z římských dějin?