

Why does everyone talk so funny?

Language changes over time. Because Shakespeare wrote his plays and sonnets over 400 years ago, many of the words of that time have disappeared from our everyday English. Here are some older Shakespeare words and their modern meanings:

Word	Meaning	Example	Modern
Anon	Soon	“Get you gone, sir; I’ll talk with you more anon .”	Go away, dude. I’ll talk with you later.
Cur	Dog	“Out dog! Out cur ! Thou drivest me past the bounds of maiden’s patience.”	Get out, you dog! I’m losing patience with you!
Fain	Gladly	“Here is neither cheer, sir, nor welcome; fain would we have either.”	We’re not feeling happy or welcomed by you, which is rude.
Forsooth	In truth	“Because the king, forsooth , will have it so.”	Really, guys, this is what the king wants.
Hap, Haply	Perhaps, maybe	“...I will kiss thy lips. Haply some poison yet doth hang on them.”	I’ll give you a kiss, Romeo, because there might be a bit of poison still on your lips.
Hither	Here	“Come hither to me, Master Froth.”	Come here, Froth.
Tarry	To wait	“We’ll rest us Hermia, if you think it good. And tarry for the comfort of the day.”	Let’s rest right here, Hermia. Soon it will be morning.
Thence, hence	Away from here	“I do not see you since you sent me hence ...”	I haven’t seen you since you sent me away.
Wherefore	Why	“Aye, sir, and wherefore ; for they say, every why hath a wherefore .”	Just tell me why!
Whither	Where to?	“Oh, my poor Rosalind, with wilt thou go?”	Rosalind! Where are you going?
Thou, thee, thy, thine, ye, wilt	You, yours, will, does, etc.	Thou canst, thou doth, thou knowest, thou wilt, thine kitty, where wilt thou goeth? Seek and ye shall find, the student doth protest too much, etc.	

