

# Troilus and Cressida

## BY THE NUMBERS

### 3368 total lines

longest of all problem plays, third longest in the Canon; longer than the average (play: 2768; problem play (2731) Act Four, Scene Five is the longest of its kind in the Canon (292); Act Five, Scenes 7 and 8 are the shortest of their kind in the Canon (23 and 22, respectively).

### Act One: 824 lines

longer than average (play: 582, problem play: 564); longest of the problem plays, third longest in the Canon (behind *Hamlet* and *King Lear*)

### Act Two: 605 lines

longer than average (play: 567, problem play: 588)

### Act Three: 668 lines

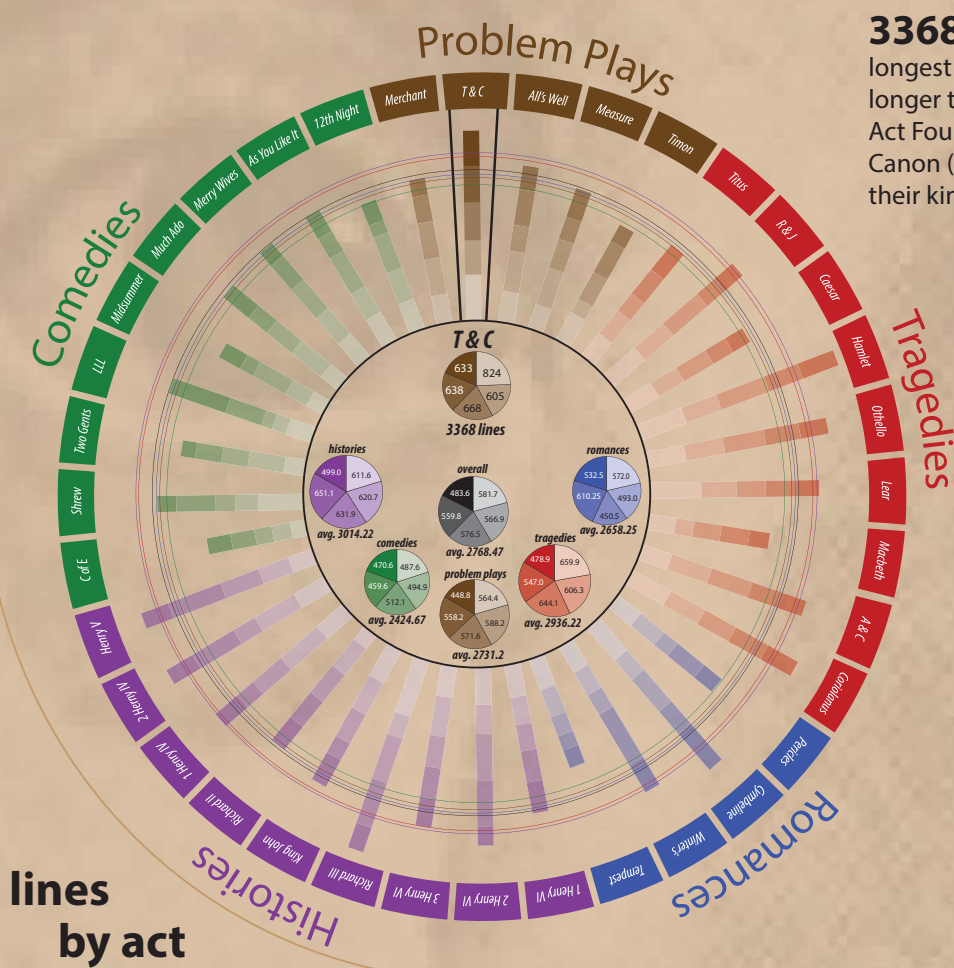
longest of all problem plays; longer than average (play: 576, problem play: 571)

### Act Four: 638 lines

longer than average (play: 560, problem play: 558)

### Act Five: 633 lines

longer than average (play: 484, problem play: 448)



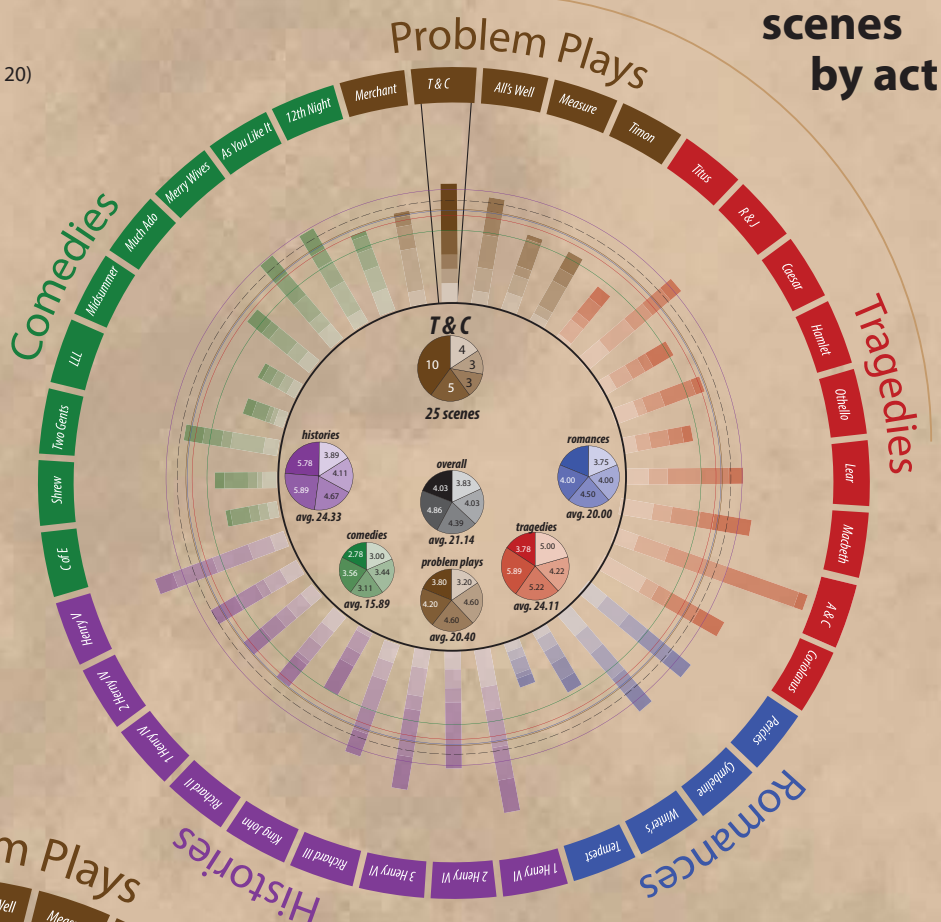
### 25 scenes

more than average (play: 21, problem play: 20)

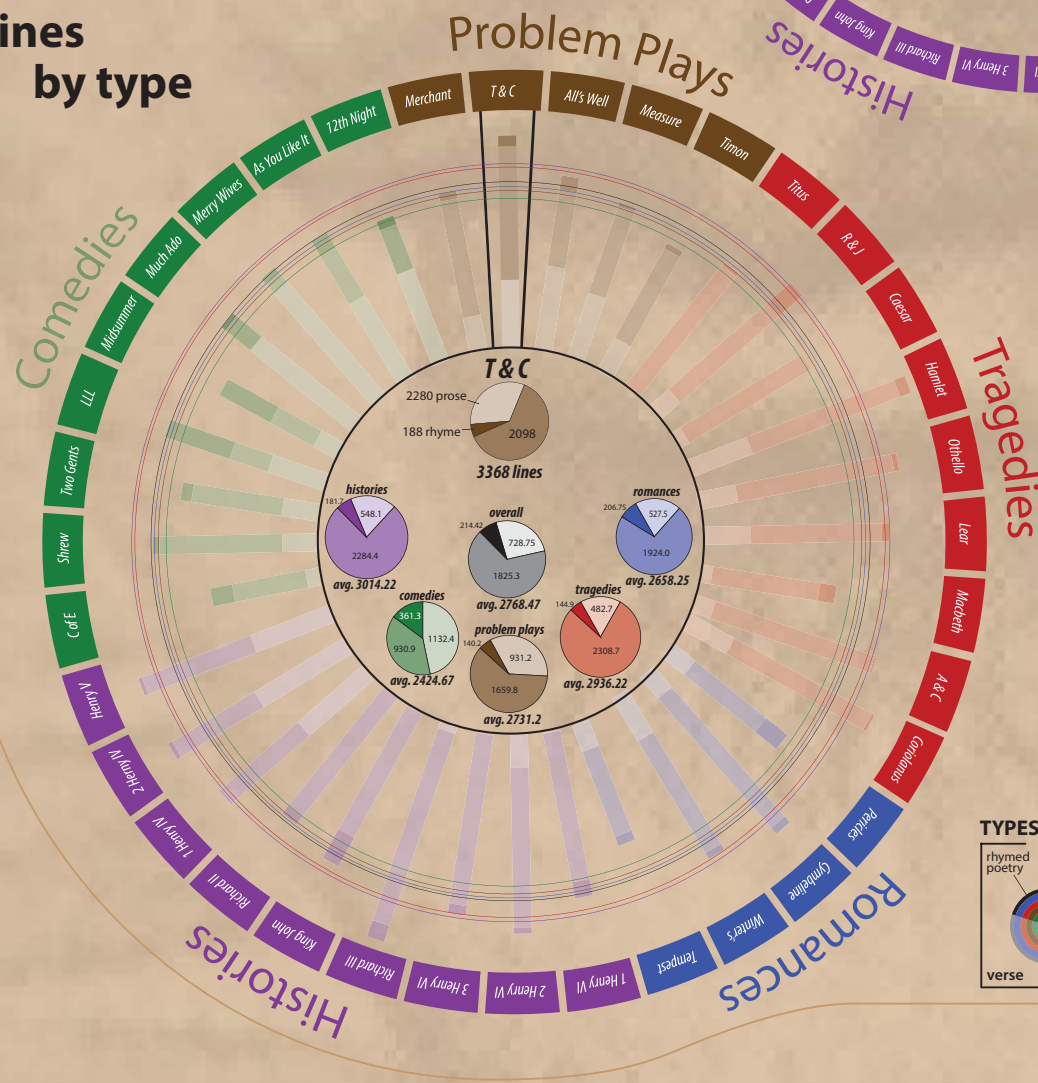
A love story in times of war:

A young prince and the daughter of a deserting priest, with a bawdy go-between, are united against the backdrop of the Trojan War.

Sounds perfect, but nothing goes as expected in this "problem play."



### lines by type



### 1088 lines of prose

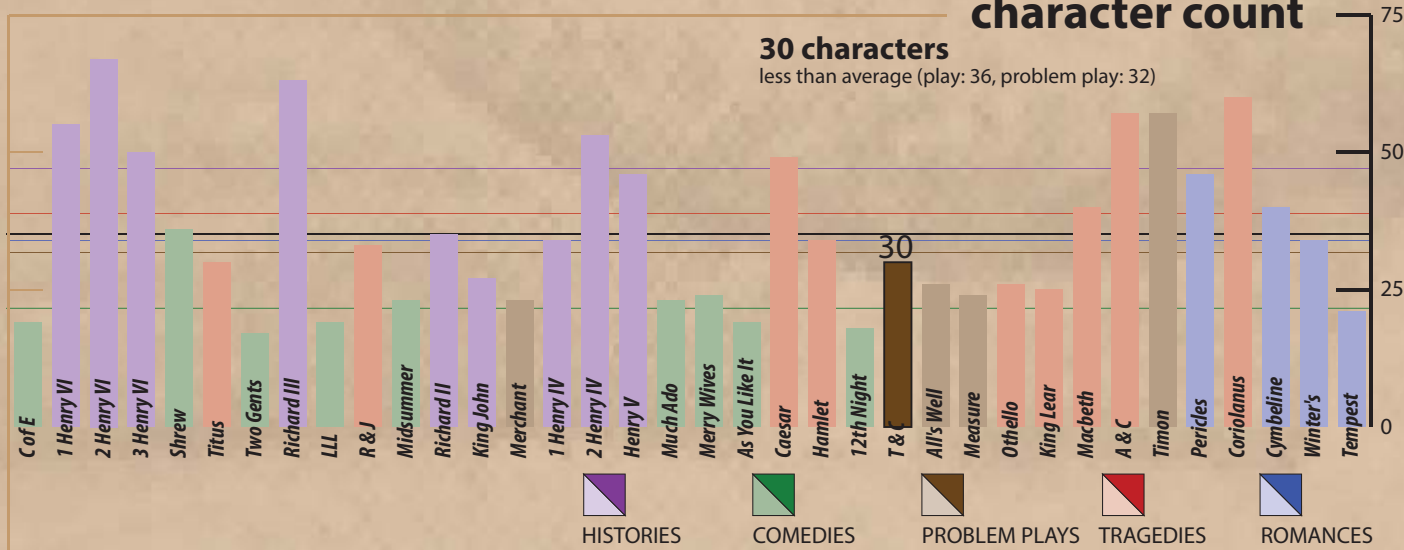
32.30% of total lines; more than average for a play (26.32%), slightly less than average problem play: 33.83%

### 182 rhyming lines

5.4% of total lines, lower than the average play (8.35%) and slightly more than average problem play (5.17%)

### 30 characters

less than average (play: 36, problem play: 32)



#### CREDITS:

sources: work-specific: Crewe, Jonathan, ed. 1999. *Troilus and Cressida*. Shakespeare, William. New York: Penguin. by comparison: *assorted plays*, Shakespeare, William. New York: Penguin.

design: Bill Walthall, FireMuse Publishing



*Troilus and Cressida: By the Numbers* by The Bill Shakespeare Project is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License. Based on a work at <http://thebillshakespeareproject.com/2015/07/troilus-and-cressida-by-the-numbers>.