Margaret Shakespeare tuberculosis writing assignment, undated

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Consumption.

Consumption is a curable and preventable disease. It is caused by little germs and it takes three hundred to cover the point of a pin.

Dr. Koch² was the first man that discovered how to prevent consumption. He was a German doctor and died about a year ago.

Consumption is not inherited but is contracted by spitting on the sidewalks. People should not spit on the sidewalk because someone might tramp on the spittle and carry it into their houses on the soles of their shoes. By that time it is dry and it rubs off

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on the carpet. It turns into dust and then we breathe it into our lungs.

If we have to spit we should spit into a paper napkin and put it into our pocket take it home and burn it.

Margaret I. Shakespeare

Gram.³ Grade 2.

Transcribed by: Chris Loos, 2023-05-11.

¹ These symbols written in a separate hand. Their meaning is unclear, and the bracketed text offers a best guess at transcription.

² i.e., Dr. Robert Koch

³ Possibly "grammar"