Year 7 English
Distance Learning Quiz and Learn Booklet
Summer 2

Name :

Form :
Week 5

Shakespeare's life and inspirations

Childhood and family

Shakespeare grew up in the town of Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire. His mother was the daughter of a local farmer and his father was a glove-maker. They were one of the richest families in town. Shakespeare went to school in Stratford, where he would have learnt to read and write in Latin and Greek as well as English. One of the ways in which the students were taught was through the performance of Latin plays. He would also have learnt about plays from the travelling companies who performed in Stratford. Shakespeare’s father was a bailiff and companies had to get a licence from him to perform in town.

At 18 Shakespeare married a local girl, Anne Hathaway. They had three children – a daughter called Susanna and twins, Hamnet and Judith. Hamnet died in 1596 – Shakespeare appears to have named his most famous character, Hamlet, after his son. Apart from his marriage and children, there is no record of what Shakespeare was doing at this time, before he went to London. Some people have suggested he was a teacher.

The area in which he grew up influenced his plays – the Forest of Arden, to the north of Stratford, appears in As You Like It. As a country lad he knew plenty of names of plants and flowers, which feature all over his work – like the wild pansy, known as 'love in idleness', which, 'purple with love's wound', is the little flower which causes all the mischief in A Midsummer Night’s Dream.
Where did he get his ideas?

Shakespeare wrote different types of plays – histories, tragedies and comedies, as well as some mixtures called ‘problem plays’. He drew on many different sources to create his unique plays. Some of them were based on the history of the kings of England – Elizabeth’s ancestors. These plays did not necessarily tell the truth, but the version that was most acceptable to the queen or king.

The politics of the court and what people on the street were talking about also inspired Shakespeare. When James I came to the throne, Shakespeare wrote his Scottish play, *Macbeth*, which featured the witches James was interested in. The character of Banquo was portrayed as good and wise – because James was descended from him.

Shakespeare set some of his plays, such as *Twelfth Night* and *A Merchant of Venice*, in Italy – which was far enough away to be a kind of fantasy world for the English. Italians were also the butt of a lot of English jokes at the time – probably because Italy was where the Pope lived, and was strongly associated with Catholics.

Shakespeare used stories from older books of all sorts for his non-historical plays. He borrowed from Latin and Greek authors as well as adapting stories from elsewhere in Europe. *Hamlet* is borrowed from an old Scandinavian tale, but *Romeo and Juliet* comes from an Italian writer writing at the same time as Shakespeare. Adapting the work of other writers was very common at the time. Although he borrowed plots, Shakespeare made the details his own, and often combined different plots.
Task

Write a summary of Shakespeare’s early life and inspirations.

*Use the words in the box to help you*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stratford-Upon-Avon</th>
<th>Forest of Arden</th>
<th>Anne Hathaway</th>
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<tr>
<td>Stories</td>
<td>Plays</td>
<td>Influence</td>
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Elizabethan England

The poor

Away from the luxury of the monarchy in the Elizabethan era, life for ordinary people was often hard and the number of poor people increased during Elizabeth’s reign. Unlike now, there was no welfare system or support for anyone who fell on hard times. Poverty was mostly considered to be your own fault in Elizabethan times - the belief that you had a ‘divinely appointed’ position in society was reinforced every week at church and this attitude was widely held.
Increasing poverty - reasons why

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rising population</td>
<td>The population rose by a million during the Elizabethan period. More people meant there was more demand for goods, and so prices rose.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inflation</td>
<td>Prices for goods rose, but wages fell as there were more people around to do the work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cloth trade collapse</td>
<td>Woollen cloth was England’s main export. There was a decline in demand and this led to unemployment.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wars</td>
<td>Taxes were increased to compensate for the price of waging war.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bad harvests</td>
<td>Harvets were particularly bad in the 1590s leading to even higher demand and more rising prices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes in farming</td>
<td>Many landlords decided to enclose their fields and keep sheep instead of growing crops which led to high unemployment.</td>
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The Poor Laws

Poverty was mostly considered to be your own fault in Elizabethan times, but attitudes started to change towards the end of Elizabeth’s reign and the government decided to take action. This was because of:

- fears that the ‘social order’ might be threatened if the growing number of poor people ganged together and vagabonds and beggars might turn to crime
- fears that the poor might spread disease
- landowners giving more to the poor

What actions were taken?

Local level

Unpaid local officials (called Justices of the Peace) were made responsible for poverty related issues in their parish. They were allowed to collect taxes in order to help the poor and unemployed. For much of the century the authorities grouped people into either the 'impotent poor' or the 'able-bodied poor':

- Impotent poor – people unable to work due to age, disability or other infirmity. Limited relief was provided by the community in which they lived.
- Able-bodied poor - these were people who were physically able to work and were forced to, to prevent them from becoming vagrants, beggars or vagabonds. It was thought many able-bodied poor were lazy, idle and threatened the established social order. The 1572 Vagabonds Act introduced severe action against vagrants who could now be whipped, bored through the ear and put to death if they were repeatedly caught begging.
1601 saw the formalisation of earlier acts and laws of poor relief. Poor Laws were key pieces of legislation:

- they brought in a **compulsory** nationwide Poor Rate system
- everyone had to contribute and those who refused would go to jail
- begging was banned and anyone caught was whipped and sent back to their place of birth
- almshouses were established to look after the impotent poor

Did Elizabeth successfully look after the welfare of the people?

The first 30 years of Elizabeth’s reign saw stability and prosperity, but a rising population led to growing poverty and problems, especially in towns. By the end of Elizabeth’s reign wide-ranging laws were passed to support the poor, which remained in place for the next 200 years. They played an important role in supporting the poor and signalled the first move into welfare from the state, but they did not end poverty and in fact more relief money still came from private charity.
Education

In Elizabethan England there was no compulsory schooling. Most children’s lives revolved around the family, the church and the farm or workshop. However, Renaissance ideas spread from the continent, including the idea that society could be improved through education and learning. This meant that the demand for education grew:

- The ability to read and write became a highly desirable asset.
- Wealthier boys were better educated than ever before.
- New universities and schools were opened. Some grammar schools with the name ‘Queen Elizabeth’ in the title still exist today. They taught exclusively in Latin to prepare the sons of the wealthy for university.
- There were two universities, Oxford and Cambridge, although the Inns of Court in London where lawyers were trained was regarded as a third university.

Leisure

Theatre

Shakespeare wrote most of his plays during Elizabeth’s reign, in what was considered a ‘golden age’ of culture.

Purpose-built theatres were popular and offered tiered seating with prices suitable for people from all ranks of society. Many nobles protected groups of actors and became their patrons (A wealthy and powerful individual who protected others by giving them money or jobs)
Opposition to the theatre

Not everyone approved of theatres. There was some opposition from:

- The Puritans - they believed theatres were the work of the devil, spreading rude and lewd ideas encouraging poor moral behaviour. They also associated the theatre with the Romans, who had persecuted Christians.

- The authorities - an extract from a law passed in 1572 stated that: “All common players...who wander about and have not a license shall be taken, adjudged and deemed rogues, vagabonds and sturdy beggars.”
Task
Imagine you are a poor person in the Elizabethan Era, write a diary entry about your life.

Dear Diary

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Week 5 (w/c29th June)- Elizabethan England and Shakespeare’s early life

1. Where did Shakespeare grow up?
   - London
   - Oxford
   - Stratford-Upon-Avon

2. Why were Shakespeare’s plays published?
   - Popular demand
   - His friends paid for it
   - For use in theatres

3. Which country did Shakespeare set Twelfth Night, The Merchant of Venice and Romeo and Juliet in?
   - England
   - Spain
   - Italy

4. The 1572 Vagrants Act punished vagrants. What happened to someone who was repeatedly caught begging?
   - Whipped
   - Bored through the ear
   - Put to death

5. The 1601 Poor Law set up places for genuinely deserving cases to live in. What were they called?
   - Workhouses
   - Safe houses
   - Workhouses

6. Which religious group opposed theatres?
   - Puritans
   - Catholics
   - Protestants

7. What do the history plays show?
   - The version of history the monarch would like
   - The truth
   - Shakespeare’s memories of history lessons at school
A Midsummer Night’s Dream Plot

Hermia runs away with Lysander instead of marrying Demetrius

Theseus, the ruler of Athens, is going to marry Hippolyta, the next day. All of Athenian society is preparing for the wedding.

Hermia’s father wants her to marry Demetrius. He says that if she refuses, he will have her put to death. But she is in love with Lysander. They run away to the woods, planning to get married in secret. Hermia (the short one) confides in her best friend, Helena (the tall one). Helena, however, is upset because she is in love with Demetrius, but he wants nothing to do with her. Helena tries to make him like her by telling him about Hermia’s plans to run away with Lysander. Demetrius sets off into the woods to find Hermia, with Helena trailing along behind him.

Did you know? During Shakespeare’s time, girls had no rights and no say in who they could marry. They were their dad’s property until they got married. And then they became their husband’s property.
Titania is the Queen of the fairies. When her friend dies, she promises to look after her little boy. Oberon, the King of the fairies, is jealous and wants the little boy for himself. The couple also accuse each other of being unfaithful.

Titania won't give in to Oberon, so he comes up with a plan for revenge. He will put a potion from a purple flower called Love-in-Idleness on Titania's eyes. When she wakes up, she will fall in love with the first creature that she sees. Oberon hopes it will be a bear, a bull or a monkey. He sends his servant, Puck to find the magic flower.

**Did you know?** Shakespeare’s audience were a superstitious lot. Most ordinary folk believed that fairies lived in the woods and worked their magic at night.
Oberon sees Demetrius being horrible to Helena. He tells Puck to put some of the potion in Demetrius' eyes so that he will love Helena. Puck finds a young couple asleep, but it is the wrong couple. He puts the potion in Lysander’s eyes.

Helena loses Demetrius in the wood and trips over Lysander. When he wakes up, Helena is the first person he sees, so he instantly falls in love with her. Suddenly, he hates Hermia.

When Oberon finds out, he orders Puck to put the potion into Demetrius' eyes, so Demetrius falls in love with Helena too. Helena thinks it's a cruel joke. Helena and Hermia have a big argument. Hermia is left alone, speechless and confused.
Bottom gets the ears of an ass and Titania falls in love with him

Puck finally manages to get the potion in the right place. Titania is asleep in her bower with Oberon’s potion in her eyes.

Meanwhile, Bottom and his friends are in the woods trying to rehearse a really bad play. Puck watches them unseen and thinks they are hilarious. Mischievously, he transforms Bottom’s head into an ass’ head. Terrified, Bottom’s friends run away. Bottom sings to stop himself from being scared. He wakes up Titania, who instantly falls in love with him. She takes him to her fairy bower where she pampers him and attends to his every need. Titania is breathlessly besotted with Bottom.
Oberon puts things right and wins the little boy from Titania

Oberon orders Puck to bring down a fog and separate the lovers. He puts the potion into Lysander’s eyes so that he will fall in love with Hermia again. Demetrius will remain in love with Helena. Oberon puts a spell on the lovers so that they will fall asleep and think it has all been a strange dream.

Titania is so in love with Bottom that she gives the little boy to Oberon. Because he has won, Oberon releases Titania from the spell. Titania thinks that she dreamt that she fell in love with an ass. Titania and Oberon seem to be in love with each other again.

Bottom thinks that he has woken up from a strange dream. The spell on him is broken too.
The lovers get married and Bottom’s friends put on a play to celebrate.

The lovers get married alongside Theseus and Hippolyta. Bottom and his friends put on their terrible play, a love story about Pyramus and Thisbe. It is hilarious, but the actors mean it to be a serious tragedy. The wedding guests enjoy laughing at the play as much as the actors enjoy performing it.
At the end, everyone is happy and Oberon and Titania bless each of the couples on their wedding night. Puck has the last word. He hopes the audience have enjoyed the play - if not, to pretend it was all a dream. He asks for the audience’s applause.
Task

Make a storyboard of the plot of *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*

- Hermia runs away with Lysander instead of marrying Demetrius.
- The King and Queen of the fairies fight over a little boy.
- Puck muddles up the lovers and causes havoc with a love potion.
- Bottom gets the ears of an ass and Titania falls in love with him.
- Oberon puts things right and wins the little boy from Titania.
- The lovers get married. Bottom’s friends put on a play to celebrate.
- The fairies bless the marriages.
1. Who does Hermia's father want her to marry?
   - Lysander
   - Demetrius
   - Theseus

2. Who tells Demetrius that Hermia is running away with Lysander?
   - Egeus
   - Hermia
   - Helena

3. What are Oberon and Titania fighting over?
   - An orphan boy
   - Puck
   - Power

4. What does Oberon tell Puck to do with the potion?
   - Make Demetrius fall in love with Helena
   - Make Hermia fall in love with Demetrius
   - Make Lysander fall in love with Helena

5. What is Helena’s response to the change in Demetrius and Lysander?
   - She’s delighted
   - She thinks it’s a cruel trick
   - She decides she loves Lysander

6. What are the Mechanics doing in the wood?
   - Running away
   - Rehearsing a play
   - Looking for fairies

7. Who does Puck give an ass’ head to?
   - Titania
   - Lysander
   - Bottom
8. Who sorts out all the mess?
   - Puck
   - Oberon
   - Titania

9. What does Puck say the audience should do if they haven't enjoyed the play?
   - Complain
   - Pretend it was a dream
   - Go to sleep
All of the characters come from Athens, Greece. The main characters in *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* can be put into three groups:

- The Fairies
- The Mechanicals
- The Mortals

The Fairies live in the woods and control most of the events in the story through their magic.

The Mechanicals are a group of workers who are trying to rehearse a play in the woods to celebrate Duke Theseus’s wedding. They are truly comic characters, a bit like clowns.

The Mortals are the human characters of the story. Within this group there are four young lovers who find their lives turned upside down by the fairy world in the middle of the night.

We are going to concentrate on the lovers because they are the characters that are involved in the confusion in the woods. Each of the characters has some kind of relationship problem. The play is funny because when the fairies try to fix these problems - the magic just makes things worse.

The lovers are:

- Hermia
- Lysander
Hermia is the daughter of a powerful nobleman, Egeus. She has fallen in love with a boy called Lysander, but her dad wants her to marry a boy called Demetrius. She doesn’t like Demetrius at all. Under Athenian law, though, fathers can choose who their daughters marry. If their daughters don’t like that choice the alternative is to be put to death or sent away to become a nun.

Character attributes

- **Independent** - she knows her own mind and defies her father. She stands up for herself when Duke Theseus suggests that she marries Demetrius.
- **Daring** - she runs away with Lysander even though the possible consequences are death or life as a nun.
- **Virtuous** - She makes sure that Lysander lays a little way apart from her when they fall asleep in the woods because they aren’t married yet.
- **Fiery** - she has a quick temper and Helena has been afraid of her since they were at school.
Hermia’s friends are:

- **Helena** - her best friend, but Helena betrays her by telling Demetrius that she is eloping with Lysander
- **Lysander** - her boyfriend, but he treats her badly when, under a spell, he falls in love with Helena

Her enemies are:

- **Egeus** - her father is prepared to have her put to death for disobeying him
- **Demetrius** - is her best friend’s ex-boyfriend and she’s not a bit interested in him

Changes in character

- Hermia starts out by being loved by both Lysander and Demetrius, but when they both fall in love with Helena because of the spell, she reacts badly and falls out with her best friend Helena.
- She is an independent girl at the beginning of the play who defies her father to run away with Lysander – and she keeps this independent streak, although during the spell she follows Lysander like a puppy.
- Hermia starts by having to leave home to be with her true love, but at the end of the play the Duke allows her to marry Lysander and she stays in Athens.

**Question - What might Hermia feel frustrated?**

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**Question – What directions would you give to the actress playing Hermia?**

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Lysander

Lysander is Hermia’s boyfriend. He is equal to Demetrius in Athenian society, but for some reason unknown to the audience, Hermia’s dad prefers Demetrius as a future son-in-law. Lysander persuades Hermia to defy her dad and run away with him. He promises to marry her when they reach his aunt’s house. When a love spell makes him fall in love with Helena, he treats Hermia very badly. This is all forgotten when everyone wakes up from the final spell.

Character attributes:

- **Romantic** – he promises to marry Hermia in secret if she will run away with him. He offers to kill Demetrius for Helena if she wants him to.
- **Persuasive** – he easily persuades Hermia to run away. He tries to persuade her to sleep close to him.
- **Dismissive** – he is mean to Hermia when the potion makes him fall in love with Helena. He forgets her and leaves her in possible danger in the woods at midnight.

Lysander is friends with:

- **Hermia** - his girlfriend

His enemies are:

- **Egeus** - who won’t let him marry Hermia
- **Demetrius** - who is trying to steal his girl

Character changes

- Lysander changes from being so besotted with Hermia that he will risk everything for her, to being in love with Helena and hating Hermia.
• He is very considerate to Hermia at the beginning, agreeing to sleep a little way away from her in the forest, but under the spell he forgets about her and leaves her in danger.

• Finally he changes back to loving Hermia, forgetting everything that happened in the forest.

Demetrius

Hermia’s dad loves Demetrius and is keen for him to marry Hermia. Even though Demetrius knows that Hermia doesn’t love him back, he is determined to marry her. Hermia’s best friend, Helena is in love with him, but he uses her for information about Hermia, then treats her very badly. Duke Theseus mentions at the beginning that Demetrius might have been engaged to Helena in the past. At the end, Demetrius realises that Helena is his true love after all. But is this just the effects of the fairies’ magic?

Character attributes

• **Arrogant** – he wants to marry Hermia no matter what her opinions are on the matter.

• **Stubborn** – he searches throughout the night for Hermia in the dark woods.

• **Unpredictable** – long ago, he was in love with Helena. Then he fancied Hermia. Then he woke up and realised that he had been in love with Helena all along... with a little help from fairy magic.

Demetrius’ friends are:
- **Egeus** – who wants him to marry Hermia
- **Duke Theseus** - the Duke of Athens
- **Helena** - his friend, even though at the beginning, he’d rather she wasn’t
  He is enemies with:
  - **Lysander** – his rival
  - **Hermia** – she hates him, even though he loves her
  - **Helena** - he hates her, even though she loves him

**Character changes**

- In the beginning Demetrius is not a likeable character. He is arrogant and stubborn. However, he ends up as one of the main romantic characters in the play.
- In the middle Demetrius falls back in love with Helena, under the love spell, changing his mind about who he wants to marry.
- At the end Demetrius finally realises that he is actually in love with Helena. But he doesn’t remember the spell. He’s not even sure how he has reached that realisation.
Helena

Character attributes

Helena is Hermia’s tall best friend. They have known each other since they were at school. Helena is totally in love with Demetrius, but he only has eyes for Hermia. In fact he tells Helena he hates her. Helena lets a man get in the way of her friendship with Hermia. She tells Demetrius about Hermia’s secret plan to run away. She allows Demetrius to make a fool of her and be cruel to her. She goes through a lot to get her man.

Character attributes

- **Untrustworthy** – Helena will do anything to make Demetrius like her, even giving away her best friend’s secrets.
- **Frustrated** – it’s hard to love someone so much and get nothing back. She wishes she could fight for love like a man.
- **Suspicious** - when Lysander and Demetrius tell her they love her she thinks it’s a cruel joke. What’s more, she suspects that her best friend, Hermia is in on it.
- **A fool for love** – Helena knows she is making a fool of herself. Demetrius is in exactly the same position as her, chasing after Hermia, who doesn’t love him, but he is not seen as a victim, because he is a man.
Friends and enemies

Helena’s friends and enemies are the same people, at different times in the play.

- **Hermia** - her best friend, but she betrays her and calls her names.
- **Demetrius** – she loves him but throughout the play he shows his dislike and disrespect for her. In the end though, he realises he loves her too.

Character changes

- Helena begins as a sad and lovesick figure, but because of the spell she ends up confused by the fact that both Lysander and Demetrius are in love with her. She does get her happy ending though, when Demetrius realises he loves her after all.
- She has a complicated relationship with Hermia – she is supposed to be her best friend, but Helena tells Hermia’s secret to Demetrius to try to get his gratitude.
- In the middle of the play Helena and Hermia fight, and call each other lots of names. But Helena can’t really stand up for herself against Hermia. In the end they are all good friends again.
**Additional characters**

**Egeus - mortal**

Egeus is an important man in Athens, a friend of the Duke, and Hermia’s father. He would rather have his daughter put to death than allow her to marry the man she loves.

He goes to the Duke of Athens to get permission to deal with his disobedient daughter as he sees fit:

**EGEUS**

I beg the ancient privilege of Athens;
As she is mine, I may dispose of her

**Act 1 Scene 1**

Character attributes

- Hot-headed
- Cruel

**Theseus - mortal**

Duke of Athens. Theseus is soon to be married to Hippolyta. He is busy making wedding plans and would rather not have this happy event blighted by the death of a young Athenian girl. He overrules Egeus in the end when Demetrius tells them all that he is in love with Helena after all and proposes a triple wedding ceremony.

Theseus was at war with Hippolyta, but now she has surrendered, and they’ve decided to get married. He seems very happy that things have turned out this way.

**THESEUS**

Hippolyta, I wooed thee with my sword,
And won thy love doing thee injuries:
But I will wed thee in another key,
With pomp, with triumph, and with revelling.

Act 1 Scene 1
Character attributes

- Powerful
- Happily in love

Hippolyta – mortal

Hippolyta is the Queen of the Amazons. She lost a battle against the Duke of Athens and now she is getting married to him. She says very little in the play.

Whilst watching Bottom's play about Pyramus and Thisbe, she comments:

HIPPOLYTA

This is the silliest stuff that ever I heard

Act 5 Scene 1
Character attributes

- Intelligence
- Poise
Bottom is a weaver, playing the lead part of Pyramus in Quince’s play. He is passionate about acting even if he isn’t very good. Puck makes him even more ridiculous by giving him the head of an ass. Under a spell, the Queen of the Fairies falls in love with him.

Oberon releases Titania from the love spell, and Bottom is left thinking that his night with the fairy queen was just a dream. He decides to ask Peter Quince to write it down so that he can perform it at the wedding:

**NICK BOTTOM**

*it shall be called ‘Bottom’s Dream’, because it hath no bottom.*

**Act 4 Scene 1**

Character attributes

- Bossy
- Self-centred
Titania is the Queen of the Fairies. She has fallen out with her husband because he wants to take a little boy that she has adopted to join his fairy gang. Oberon charms her so that she falls in love with Nick Bottom, a weaver/amateur actor who is also under a spell: he has donkey’s ears.

When she wakes up, she thinks her night with Nick Bottom was a dream:

**TITANIA**

*My Oberon! what visions have I seen!*

*Methought I was enamoured of an ass.*

**Act 4 Scene 1**

Character attributes

- Independent
- Passionate
Oberon is the King of the Fairies. He uses a love spell to get revenge on his wife, Titania. With Puck’s help, he uses magic to interfere in the love lives of others with comic and disastrous effects.

He begins his argument in the woods with his wife:

**OBERON**

_ill met by moonlight, proud Titania!

**Act 2 Scene 1**

Character attributes

- Jealous
- Romanti
Puck is Oberon’s right-hand man. He is also known as Robin Goodfellow and has a reputation for causing mischief in the mortal world. He causes confusion when he puts love potion in Lysander’s eyes rather than Demetrius’s. He is responsible for giving Bottom his ass’s ears.

When he sees the confusion, he has caused amongst the lovers in the woods, he laughs:

**PUCK**

*Lord, what fools these mortals be!*

**Act 3 Scene 2**

Character attributes

- Mischievous
- Reluctantly obedient
Task

Write a text conversation between two characters:

- Hermia and Helena
- Hermia and Lysander
- Helena and Demetrius

Your conversation needs to be based on the plot of A Midsummer Night’s Dream

For example:

HELENA
Hi Hermia...do you wanna hang out later?

HERMIA
Hey Helena. Sorry can’t today! I have some exciting plans.

HELENA
What are you planning?

HERMIA
I am running away with Lysander to get married....it’s a secret though you can’t tell anyone! If my dad finds out he will KILL me

HELENA
OMG!!!!! I am sooo jel. Demetrius still hasn’t replied to my text. Maybe I should call him....?
1. Who live in the woods and control most of the events in the story through their magic?
   - The Mortals
   - The Mechanicals
   - The Fairies

2. Who are the group of workers who are trying to rehearse a play in the woods?
   - The Mortals
   - The Mechanicals
   - The Fairies

3. Who are the human characters of the story?
   - The Mortals
   - The Mechanicals
   - The Fairies

4. Whose father is Egeus?
   - Hermia
   - Helena
   - Demetrius

5. Why does Hermia run away?
   - So that she can marry Demetrius
   - So that she can marry Lysander
   - Because her dad wants her to become a nun
6. Why does Helena betray Hermia?
   - She loves Lysander
   - She loves Demetrius
   - She's not a nice person

7. Who is the rubbish actor whose head gets turned into an ass?'
   - Peter Quince
   - Tom Snout
   - Nick Bottom

8. Who is Hippolyta?
   - Queen of the Fairies
   - Queen of Athens
   - Queen of the Amazons
Week 8 – Key Scene Analysis

Act 2, Scene 2 – Puck has put the love potion on Lysander’s eyes instead of Demetrius. Lysander has woken up and instantly fallen in love with Helena.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lysander</th>
<th>Helena</th>
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<tbody>
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<td><em>(waking)</em> And run through fire I will for thy sweet sake. Transparent Helena! Nature shows art. That through thy bosom makes me see thy heart. Where is Demetrius? Oh, how fit a word! <em>80</em> Is that vile name to perish on my sword!</td>
<td><em>Don’t say so, Lysander. Say not so.</em> What though he love your Hermia? Lord, what though? Yet Hermia still loves you. Then be content.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>(waking up)</em> I’d even run through fire if you told me to. Radiant, beautiful Helena! I feel like Mother Nature has allowed me to see into your heart, as if by magic. Where is Demetrius? Oh, I’d kill that name with my sword if I could!</td>
<td><em>(waking)</em> I’d even run through fire if you told me to. Radiant, beautiful Helena! I feel like Mother Nature has allowed me to see into your heart, as if by magic. Where is Demetrius? Oh, I’d kill that name with my sword if I could!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content with Hermia? No. I do repent. The tedious minutes I with her have spent. Not Hermia but Helena I love. Who will not change a raven for a dove? The will of man is by his reason swayed, And reason says you are the worthier maid.</td>
<td><em>Don’t say that, Lysander. Don’t say that.</em> Why do you care that he loves Hermia? What does it matter? Hermia still loves you, so be happy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happy with Hermia? No. I regret all the boring time I wasted with her. I don’t love Hermia; I love Helena. Who wouldn’t love a dove more than a crow? A man’s desires are influenced by his logical mind, and it’s simply logical that you’re more worthy of love than Hermia is.</td>
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*Answer in full sentences*
1) Which quotation tells the audience Lysander is willing to die for Helena?

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2) What does Lysander want to do with Demetrius?
   a) Lysander wants to ask Demetrius’s permission to date Helena.
   b) Lysander wants to kill Demetrius.
   c) Lysander wants to fight Demetrius.

3) Give evidence for your answer to question 2.

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4) How does Helena feel in this scene?
   a) Helena is happy Lysander loves her.
   b) Helena is confused, she believes Lysander loves Hermia.
   c) Helena is angry, she thinks that Lysander is playing a trick on her.

5) Give evidence for your answer to question 4.

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6) Which quotation tells you that Lysander regrets the time he spent with Helena?

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7) Lysander tells Helena, “who will not change a raven for a dove?” Who is Lysander comparing to a raven?

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8) Who is Lysander comparing to a dove?

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9) What does the metaphor, “who will not change a raven for a dove?” suggest about Lysander’s character?

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### Egeus' Complaint: Act 1, Scene 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. How is Egeus feeling? | EGEUS
Full of vexation come I, with complaint | vexation – anger, frustration |
| 2. Who is he complaining about? | Against my child, my daughter Hermia. |
| 3. Which man does he like? | Stand forth Demetrius!– My noble lord, This man hath my consent to marry her. | consent – permission |
| 4. Which man does he not like? | Stand forth, Lysander!– And, my gracious duke, This man hath bewitched the bosom of my child. | Bewitched – put a spell on; Bosom – heart |
| 5. What has Lysander done? | Thou, thou, Lysander, thou hast given her rhymes, And interchanged love-tokens with my child. Thou hast by moonlight at her window sung | Thou – you; hast – have; rhymes – love poetry interchanged – swapped |
|  | With feigning voice verses of feigning love, And stolen the impression of her fantasy, With bracelets of thy hair, rings, gauds, conceits, Knacks, trifles, nosegays, sweetmeats – messengers Of strong prevailment in unhardened youth; | feigning voice – a voice pretending to be honest |
|  | With cunning hast thou filched my daughter's heart, Turned her obedience, which is due to me, | bracelets...sweetmeats – gifts prevailment – persuasion; unhardened – inexperienced filched – stolen due – owed |
6. What should his daughter do?

To stubborn harshness.

And, my gracious duke,
Be it so she will not here,
before your grace,
Consent to marry with
Demetrius,

40

I beg the ancient privilege
of Athens;
As she is mine, I may
dispose of her;
Which shall be either to this
gentleman
Or to her death, according
to our law
Immediately provided in
that case.

45

Be it so – if; before – in front of
Consent – agree

ancient privilege – the traditional
law of Athens
dispose – get rid of

7. What does he want to happen to her if she doesn’t do what he wants?

Explode this quotation:

“She is mine I may dispose of her as I will”
1) How does Shakespeare present Ancient Athens as a patriarchal society?
   *Patriarchal – A society ruled and dominated by men.*
Act 2 scene 1 –

Oberon is instructing Puck to get the love potion.

Explode this quotation:

Before milk-white, now purple with love’s wound.

1) What are the connotations of the colour white?

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2) What are the connotations of the colour purple?

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3) How does Shakespeare show that love is dangerous?

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Week 8 (w/c 20th July) A Midsummer Night's Dream key scene analysis

1. Why is Lysander suddenly in love with Helena?
   - Because he has realised how funny and nice Helena is
   - Because he has had the love potion put on his eyes
   - Because he has had an argument with Hermia

2. Who was Puck originally supposed to put the love potion on?
   - Demetrius
   - Lysander
   - Hermia

3. How does Helena feel when Lysander confesses his love for her?
   - Angry
   - Confused
   - Embarrassed

4. What does the metaphor "who will not change a raven for a dove?" suggest about Lysander's feelings for Hermia?
   Enter your answer

5. What will happen to Hermia if she disobeys her father?
   - She will be executed
   - She will be disowned
   - She will be sent to a nunnery
6. What kind of society is Ancient Athens?

- [ ] Severe
- [ ] Patriarchal
- [ ] Fair

7. How does this quotation “she is mine I may dispose of her as I will” show that Ancient Athens is a patriarchal society?

Enter your answer