



ELA Virtual Learning

English 218 Introduction to Literature

Lesson: May 13, 2020



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Objective/Learning Target:

- Read and comprehend literature, including drama, independently and proficiently.
- Draw conclusions, infer, and analyze by citing relevant and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including where the text leaves matters uncertain.
- Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings using context, affixes, or reference materials.



Bell Ringer:

Look up definitions for the following:

Dissemble

Hyperbolic

****Start a document to record your response to this and the work which follows on later slides.**

Learn - Shakespeare's conflicts

Yesterday, I asked that you take note of the conflicts which develop - how and why, plus what might be the outcomes. On page 122 of scene 4, we read parts of the challenge Sir Andrew issues to Cesario/Viola. He writes, "I will waylay thee going home, where if it be/they chance to kill me--" (3.4.168-169). He continues, "Thou kill'st me like a rogue and a villain" (171). Andrew is instigating this conflict, but also seems to be putting the blame for any outcome on Cesario. Sir Toby notes that Andrew is staying on the right side of the law.

After giving the letter of challenge to Toby to deliver, Andrew leaves. In soliloquy, Sir Toby tells the audience he will not deliver the letter. Read closely to see his reasons. First, he believes Cesario to be too smart and too well-bred to be drawn in by the challenge. Then he presumes Cesario will ignore the challenge, taking Andrew as an idiot. Finally, Toby states he will deliver the challenge in person, verbally, so that it will, "...so fright them both that they will kill one/another by the look, like cockatrices" (3.4.203-204).

Learn - Shakespeare's conflicts

In case you haven't already (and should have), look up “cockatrices.” The [Encyclopedia Britannica](#) will do.



Learn - Shakespeare's conflicts

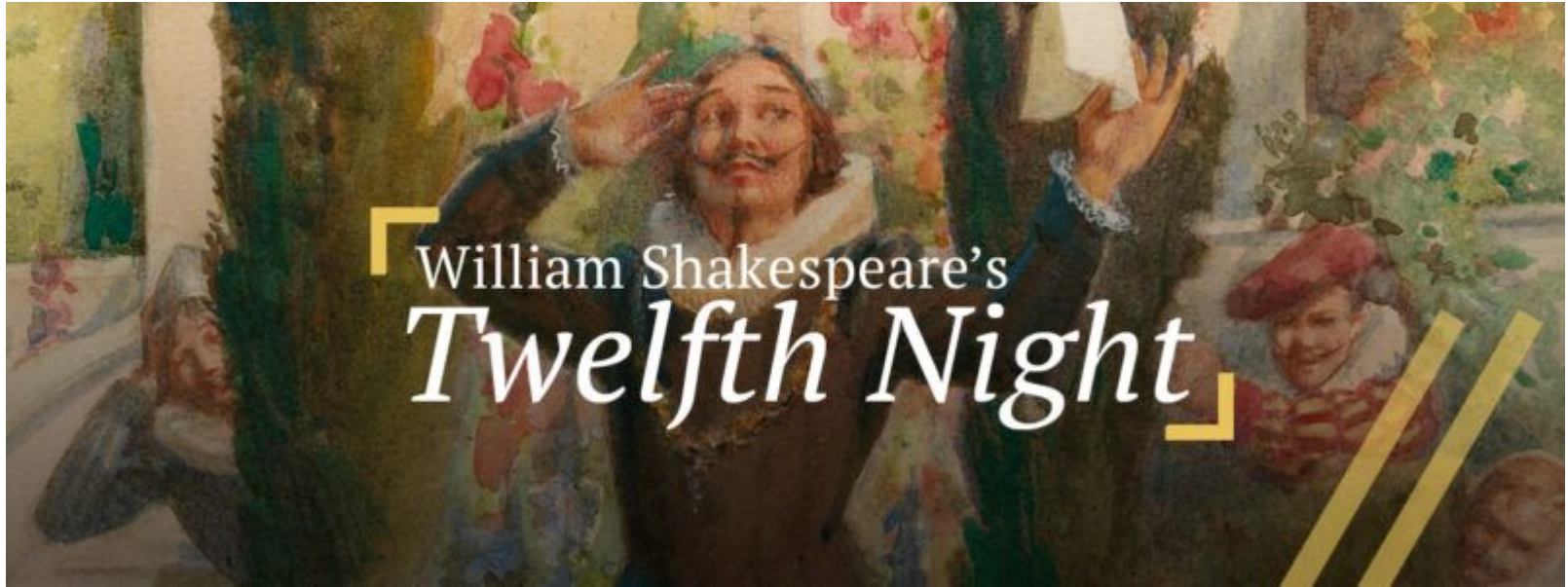
This dragon/rooster creature kills with only a look or breath. This should shed some light on Sir Toby's true nature and his interests in this conflict. Have you guessed yet that this is just a jest for him? He senses, correctly, that the two gentlemen will have no interest in actually fighting, but will meet up and give each other serious looks - "if looks could kill" but not more.

In Shakespearean comedy, conflicts exist, of course, but their intent and consequences are very different. Unlike his tragedies (think *Romeo and Juliet*), no one gets seriously hurt in his comedies. As you have read, in this particular case, Sir Andrew is willing to give up his favorite horse to avoid a duel with Cesario. Then, when Antonio steps in to defend "Sebastian" - actually Cesario - officers arrive and arrest him. Again, no one gets hurt.

Learn - Shakespeare's mix-ups

In place of serious altercation, when it comes to his comedies, Shakespeare loves a mix-up. He is fond of using twins for this, or people disguised as other people, and in this case - both - to create conflict. In the reading from 3.4, Antonio is dragged away by the officers and asks Cesario (whom he thinks is Sebastian) for his purse- it would seem he needs to bond out or maybe bribe someone - and is astounded and angry when Cesario only acts confused.

In Act 4, this type of conflict continues. Look for how it creates or contributes to another theme or two.



Please continue your reading of *Twelfth Night*, beginning on page 137 of the book, and read Act 4, Scenes 1 and 2, through page 153. Remember, these are now book page numbers - not pdf page numbers.

Practice:

Twelfth Night - Act 4, Scenes 1 and 2 - After reading, respond to the following questions in full sentences; typically only one or two sentences will be sufficient.

1. Act 4 opens with another mix-up. Who is involved and what happens?
2. More mix-ups ensue and soon Olivia is involved. She mistakes Sebastian for Cesario. What does she ask him and how does he respond? Explain and include a quote.
3. In Scene 2, Maria has Feste disguise himself as Sir Topas, a curate (minister), and they visit Malvolio, who is imprisoned for being “mad”. Why does Feste, as Sir Topas, pose a series of questions to Malvolio? Why disguise him as a curate?
4. What do you predict for Malvolio (keep in mind the true nature of conflicts in Shakespeare's comedy)?

Response Criteria

(Answers will Vary)

- Check your written response to make sure it meets the following criteria:
 - Did you write in complete sentences?
 - Did you use standard conventions (spelling, punctuation, grammar)?
 - Did you answer the questions?
 - Did you use MLA formatting in all things, including a proper MLA header?

Sample Appropriate Response:

Bellringer - Responses will vary, but should include a decent definition of each word, which can be found in any dictionary.

Practice: Possible responses are on the following slides.

Examples of Quality Responses

1. Act 4 opens with another mix-up. Who is involved and what happens?
Response: Feste the Fool sees Sebastian and mistakes him for Cesario. Both are quite confused; Fool thinks the other must be losing it and Sebastian thinks Fool is just being foolish and gives him money to go away.
2. More mix-ups ensue and soon Olivia is involved. She mistakes Sebastian for Cesario. What does she ask him and how does he respond? Explain and include a quote. **Response:** Olivia thinks she is talking to Cesario, so she asks him, “Would thou ‘dst be ruled by/me!” (4.2.67-68) In Shakespearean language, she is saying she wishes he would be hers. She should have been surprised when he responded, “Madam, I will” (69).

Examples of Quality Responses

3. In Scene 2, Maria has Feste disguise himself as Sir Topas, a curate (minister), and they visit Malvolio, who is imprisoned for being “mad”. Why does Feste, as Sir Topas, pose a series of questions to Malvolio? Why disguise him as a curate?

Response: “Sir Topas” poses a series of questions to Malvolio to test his mind, in the guise of checking to see if he is sane. As a curate, his role would be to give comfort to a prisoner, but also to question his sanity; he would be trusted and respected in that role, but not so as himself, a fool.

4. What do you predict for Malvolio (keep in mind the true nature of conflicts in Shakespeare's comedy)? **Response:** **Responses will vary but should reflect the relatively harmless nature of conflict in Shakespeare’s comedies.

Resources

Conflict in comedy often involves wordplay, sarcasm, and verbal insults. Shakespeare is known for his witty and original insults. Watch this short Ted talk on [Shakespeare's Insults](#). The speaker is enlightening on the topic and is also pleasant to listen to. The visuals are fun, too.

April Gudenrath | TED-Ed

Insults by Shakespeare

English transcription by [Bedirhan Cinar](#).

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