

威廉•莎士比亚

Much Ado About Nothing

无事生非



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Lines from Shakespeare

Key to the Activities and Exit Test

This story is recorded in full. 故事全文录音



CHAPTER +

APPENDICES

These symbols indicate the beginning and end of the extracts linked to the listening activities. 听力练习开始和结束的标记

练习答案和测试答案



103

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Shakespeare's Life

It is thought that he was born in Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564. It is thought that he was born on 23 April. William Shakespeare's father was John Shakespeare, a merchant who played an important role in the politics of Stratford-upon-Avon. John Shakespeare married Mary Arden, and they had 8 children. He became bailiff 1 and justice of the peace 2 in 1568. In later years the business fortunes of John Shakespeare declined.³ It is not known where the young William Shakespeare went to school, although it is thought that he attended the local grammar school, where pupils were instructed in Latin.

Shakespeare married Anne Hathaway when he was 18 years old, and the couple had 3 children – a daughter, Susanna, who was born in 1583, and twins, Hamnet and Judith, who were born in 1585.

How Shakespeare earned his living as a young adult is not known, although there is some evidence that he may have been a schoolmaster. It is not known, either, how he first entered the world of the theatre. According to one story, an actor in the Queen's Company died shortly before the company visited Stratford-upon-Avon in 1587; it is said that Shakespeare took the dead man's place.

The first reference to Shakespeare is in a pamphlet written in 1592. The pamphlet

1. bailiff:负责执行法庭判决的官吏。

2. justice of the peace: 治安法官。

3. declined: 衰落。



shows that Shakespeare was already established ¹ in the theatrical world by that date. By 1594 Shakespeare was an important member of the Lord Chamberlain's Men, a theatrical company based in London. The company played at the Globe Theatre from 1599 onwards, and changed their name to the King's Men in 1603. In 1608 the King's Men moved to the Blackfriar's Theatre.

Shakespeare wrote 38 plays for the theatre before he died in 1616, as well as poetry and the most famous series of sonnets in the English language. His work was gathered together and published after his death. Visitors to Stratford-upon-Avon can visit many places associated with the playwright's life, including the house where he was born and Anne Hathaway's cottage. They can also visit the Royal Shakespeare Theatre and see performances of his plays.

1	Answer	the	following	questions.	Indicate	which	answers	are	CERTAIN	and
	which on	ies	are just LII	KELY.						

a.	Where was Shakespeare born? He was born in Stratford-on-Avon. CERTAIN
b.	When was he born?
c.	Who were his parents?
d.	Where did he go to school?
e.	How old was Shakespeare when he got married?
f.	How many children did he have and what were their names?
g.	What jobs did Shakespeare do before becoming an actor?
h.	How did Shakespeare get his first acting job?
i.	Which theatrical companies did he work with?
j.	When were his theatrical works published?

1. established: 奠定稳固的地位。



SHAKESPEARE'S Much Ado About Nothing

It is a comedy about love. The action of the play begins with the visit of the Prince of Aragon, Don Pedro, to Messina, where he is the guest of Leonato.

One of Don Pedro's officers, Claudio, falls in love with Leonato's daughter, Hero.

Don Pedro helps Claudio to win Leonato's permission for the marriage. The Prince's brother, Don John, is determined to destroy the relationship between Claudio and



Scene from Much Ado About Nothing (1789)
by Johann Heinrich Füssli.

Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister, Dresden.

humiliate:羞辱。
 denounces:谴责。

Hero. He enters into a plot with his friend Borachio to make it seem that Hero already has a lover.

Claudio's best friend is another young officer called Benedick.

Benedick is well-known for his humour, and his determination never to fall in love. The Prince and Claudio decide to play a trick on him by making him believe that Leonato's niece, Beatrice, is in love with him. They also try to persuade Beatrice that Benedick is in love with her.

Claudio is very angry when he discovers that Hero seems to have a lover, and he decides to humiliate 1 her at the wedding ceremony. He denounces 2 her in



front of the guests, and refuses to marry her. Hero faints with shock in the church, and Claudio and Don Pedro believe that she is dead.

The local constables, Dogberry and Verges, soon discover Don John's plot against Claudio and the Prince. Claudio is full of remorse 1 when he learns the truth. Leonato tells Claudio that he was responsible for Hero's death, and asks him to marry one of Hero's cousins. Claudio agrees to do this, in order to make amends 2 for his cruelty to Hero. When Claudio arrives at the wedding he is amazed to discover that the 'cousin' is really Hero herself. Benedick interrupts the proceedings 3 to ask if he can marry Beatrice. The play ends happily with all the problems resolved.

Who's who

A	nswer the following questions.
a.	Who visits Leonato?
b.	Who are the two officers of this visitor?
c.	Who is Leonato's daughter?
d.	Who is Leonato's niece?
e.	
f.	Who plays a trick on Benedick?
g.	Who never wants to fall in love?
h.	Who faints in the church?
i.	Who plots against the lovers?
j.	Who discover the plot?
1.	remorse:悔恨。 make amends:补偿。

3. proceedings:(此处指)婚礼的过程。

Before you read

F	fill in the gaps in the text with suitable words. Then listen and check.
ŀ	Leonato, the Governor of Messina, 0
(other as they went along. Leonato watched them both with a smile. He, 100,
44	was contented. Suddenly a messenger appeared 3 the far end of the street. He was looking 4 he saw Leonato
1	he ran up to him with a letter in 6 hand. He bowed in front of the Governor, and handed him 7 letter.
3	Leonato opened the letter and read 8 quickly.
	'Is Don Pedro coming here?' he 9 the messenger. 'Yes, sir,' the messenger replied. 'The Prince of Aragon 10
	coming to Messina. He 11 arrive shortly.
	'He says here that the army had a great victory,' Leonato said. 'Did we lose 12 soldiers in the battle?'
	'No, sir,' the messenger said proudly. 'Very 13 of our men we
	Leonato was pleased.
	'That's good news,' he commented. He turned to the letter again. 'I see that Don Pedro 15 very pleased with the young Florentine,
	'True, sir,' the messenger confirmed. 'The Prince 16 honoure
	Claudio for his courage in the battle. 'What 17 Benedick?' Beatrice asked the messenger. 'Have yo
	got any news about him?' 'He, too, has come home safely,' the messenger replied politely. 'He is famous
	for his humour.' 'I'm glad 18 hear that he's famous for his humour,' Beatrice
	said coldly. 'It's the only good thing about him.' The messenger looked at Beatrice in surprise. He thought she was being rud about Benedick, and he 19 not know 20 to
	about Benedick, and he 19 not know 20 to reply to her.

Dramatis Personae



DON JOHN his brother



DON PEDRO Prince of Aragon



CLAUDIO a young Lord of Florence



LEONATO Governor of Messina



ANTONIO his brother



BENEDICK a young Lord of Padua



BORACHIO and CONRAD followers of Don John





BEATRICE Niece of Leonato



HERO Daughter of Leonato



MARGARET and URSULA waiting-gentlewomen of Hero



FRIAR FRANCIS



BALTHAZAR servant of Don Pedro



DOGBERRY a Constable



VERGES a Headborough

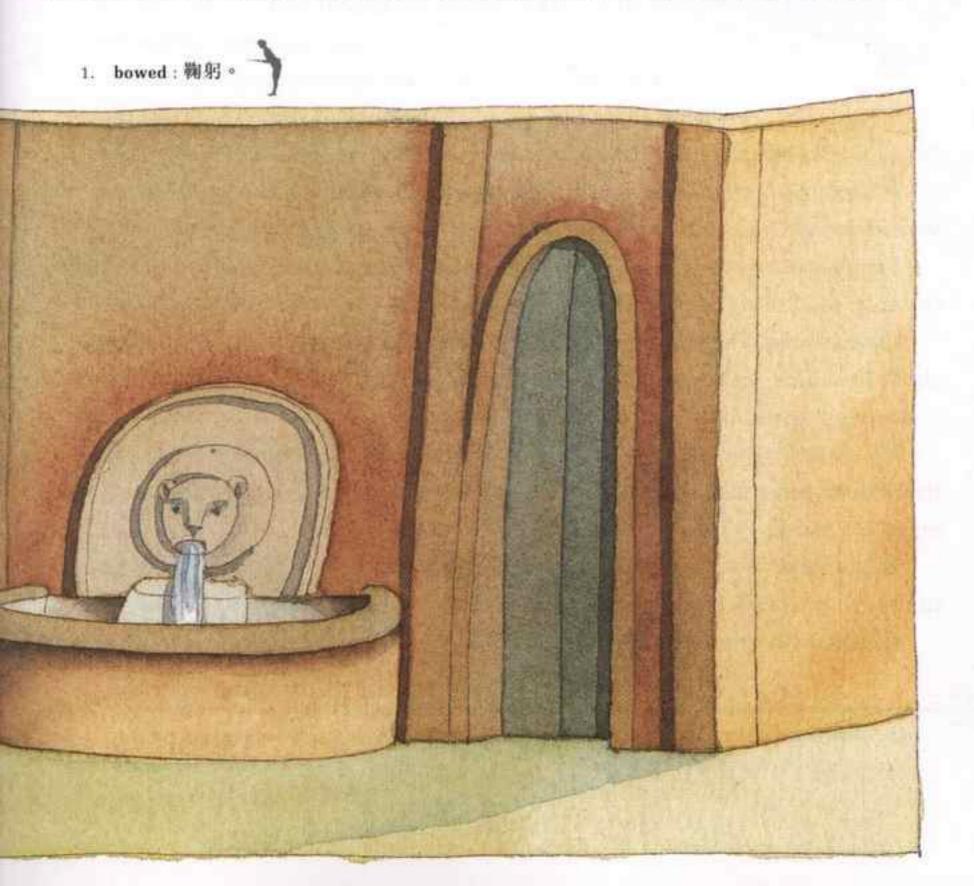


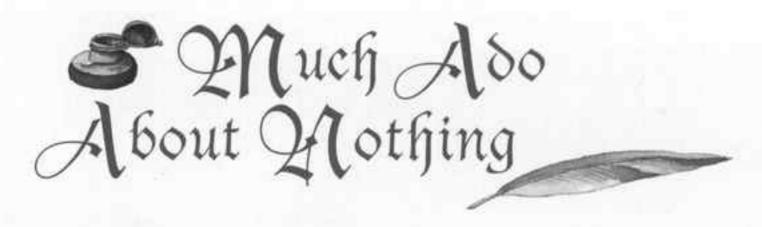
Love at First Gight



eonato, the Governor of Messina, was walking in the city with his daughter Hero and his niece Beatrice. The two young women were both beautiful, and they chatted happily to each other as they went along. Leonato watched them both with a smile. He, too, was contented.

Suddenly, a messenger appeared at the far end of the street. He was looking for the Governor. When he saw Leonato, he ran up to him with a letter in his hand. He bowed ¹ in front of the Governor, and handed him the letter.





Leonato opened the letter and read it quickly.

'Is Don Pedro coming here?' he asked the messenger.

'Yes, sir,' the messenger replied. 'The Prince of Aragon is coming to Messina.

He will arrive soon.'

'He says here that the army had a great victory,'
Leonato said. 'Did we lose many soldiers ¹ in the
battle?'

'No, sir,' the messenger said proudly. 'Very few of our men were killed, I am happy to say.'

Leonato was pleased.

'That's good news,' he commented. He turned to the letter again. 'I see that Don Pedro is very pleased with the young Florentine, Claudio.'

'True, sir,' the messenger confirmed. 'The Prince has honoured Claudio for his courage in the battle.'

ENH

'What about Benedick?' Beatrice asked the messenger. 'Have you got any news about him?'

'He, too, has come home safely,' the messenger replied politely. 'He is famous for his humour.'

'I'm glad to hear that he's famous for his humour,' Beatrice said coldly. 'It's the only good thing about him.'

The messenger looked at Beatrice in surprise. He thought she was being rude about Benedick, and he did not know how to reply to her.

Leonato saw that the messenger was embarrassed.

'It's all right,' he told the man with a laugh. 'Don't think my niece is serious. Beatrice and Benedick are always telling jokes about each other – she doesn't mean any harm.'

'But tell me,' Beatrice said to the messenger, 'has Benedick got a new friend in the army? He seems to change his best friend every month.'

'Is that really true?' the messenger asked.



1. Did we lose many soldiers: 我方牺牲的战士是不是很多?



'Of course it is,' Beatrice said firmly. 'A friendship is like a hat to Benedick – it lasts until there is a new fashion!'

'I see that Benedick is not in your good books,' 1 the messenger said.

'That's true,' Beatrice replied quickly. 'If Benedick were in my good books, I would never read them again. But you haven't told me – who is Benedick's new friend?'

'Benedick and Claudio are good friends,' the messenger told her. 'They are both brave young men.'

At that moment the Prince of Aragon, Don Pedro, came into the street. There was a crowd of people with him. The messenger could see the Prince's brother, Don John, and several young soldiers, including Benedick and Claudio.

Leonato stepped forward to greet the Prince.

'Welcome to Messina,' he said politely. 'I am happy that you will be my guest while you are here.'

Don Pedro shook Leonato's hand. Then he looked at Hero.

'Is this your daughter?' he asked.

'Yes, indeed,' Leonato replied. Then he made a little joke. 'At least her mother has always said Hero is my daughter!'

'Her mother tells you!' Benedick interrupted. 'Do you doubt it, sir?' he joked.

Leonato smiled at the young man. He was not offended, ² because he knew Benedick's reputation for jokes and humour.

'No sir,' he replied slowly, 'I do not doubt it. Why should I doubt it? You were still a child!'

Don Pedro laughed loudly.

'A good reply, my friend!' he said to Leonato. 'What do you say to that, Benedick?' he asked. 'The Governor means that you have a bad reputation with women!'

Everyone laughed at the Governor's joke except Beatrice. She looked angrily at Benedick.



^{1.} in your good books: 得到你的好感。

^{2.} offended:被激怒。



'What a fool you are,' she told him. 'Can't you see how everyone is laughing at you?'

Benedick did not like Beatrice. He turned to her with an ironical greeting.

'I see you're still alive, Lady Scornful,' 1 he said.

'Of course I'm still alive,' Beatrice replied mockingly. 'My scorn feeds off ² you – didn't you know that?'

Benedick pretended to laugh at Beatrice's humour.

'All the ladies love me, except you,' he told her proudly. 'But I don't care for any of them.'

'Lucky women!' Beatrice said. 'At least you won't marry one of them and make her unhappy. But I'm like you,' she told him. 'I've got no patience with love.'

'Lucky men!' Benedick replied. 'At least you won't make one of them unhappy.'

Soon the large group of people began to move towards Leonato's house.

There was a lot of laughing and joking. Everyone was happy. Claudio touched Benedick's arm, and held him back.

'Just a minute,' he said quietly. 'I want to talk to you.'

'What is it?' Benedick asked, when the two men were alone.

'Did you notice Leonato's daughter Hero?' Claudio asked his friend. 'Did you see how beautiful she is?'

'I didn't really notice her. She's not bad looking, but her cousin Beatrice is far more beautiful,' Benedick said thoughtfully.

'She's the most beautiful girl in the world!' Claudio announced firmly. Benedick looked closely at his friend.

'You're in love!' he said slowly. 'But surely you're not thinking of getting married?'

Claudio frowned. 3

'I've never thought about marriage before,' he admitted. 'But if Hero would marry me, I'd certainly be very happy!'



1. scornful:轻蔑的。

2. feeds off:来自。

3. frowned: 皱眉。



Benedick began to laugh.

'I don't understand you, my friend,' he said with a smile, 'but if it makes you happy, marry the girl!'

Just then Don Pedro returned to the young men.

'Why have you stayed behind?' he asked. 'What are you talking about? Is it a secret?'

Benedick began to laugh again. He told the Prince about Claudio's love for Hero.

'She's a fine girl,' the Prince told Claudio.

'You needn't laugh,' he told Benedick. 'You'll fall in love one day as well!'

'Never!' Benedick told him. 'I like all women – I'll never surrender to just one woman.' 1

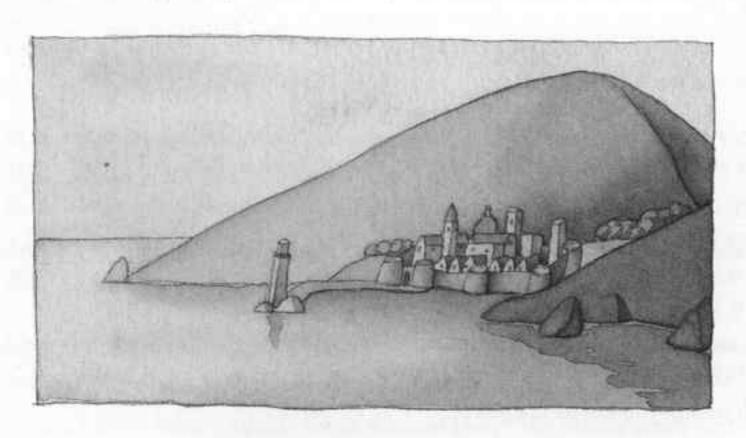
Don Pedro smiled.

'You'll fall in love one day, my young friend,' he repeated. 'I shall see you pale with love one day.'

'Never!' Benedick said again. 'You may see me pale with illness, or pale with anger, my Lord – but you'll never see me pale with love. I promise you that!'

'We shall see, we shall see,' Don Pedro told him. 'Now go into the house with the others, Benedick – I want to have a serious talk with Claudio about all this.'

Benedick bowed politely to the Prince, and walked towards Leonato's house.





Go back to the text

An	swer the following questions.
a.	Who is the Governor of Messina?
b.	Who is he walking with in the city?
c.	What news does the messenger bring?
d.	Why isn't Leonato surprised at Beatrice's rudeness?
e.	Who is Claudio?
f.	Who is Benedick?
g.	What is Benedick famous for?
h.	How does Beatrice talk about Benedick?
i.	What does Beatrice mean when she says that for Benedick friendship is like a hat
j.	Who does Claudio find beautiful?

'If Benedick were in my good books, I would never read them again.'

- 2 Since this is a comedy, it is full of funny remarks. Find the ones in Chapter One which mean the following.
 - a. A man can never be really sure if his wife has been faithful, so he never knows if his children are really his.
 - b. Every sort of terrible thing may happen to me, but never that terrible thing called love.
 - c. I do not doubt my wife's faithfulness because you were only a child when she was a young woman.
 - d. Men are lucky that you do not want to fall in love because any man would be terribly unhappy with you.
 - e. My hate for you keeps me alive.
 - f. He changes his friends all the time for no good reason.

'Beatrice and Benedick are always telling jokes about each other.'

Each other

To understand the use of the reciprocal pronoun each other look at the following example from Chapter One.

Beatrice and Benedick are always telling jokes about each other. = Beatrice tells jokes about Benedick, and Benedick tells jokes about Beatrice.

Reflexive pronouns (myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves) are used when the subject of the verb performs an action on him or herself.

Look at the following example.

Beatrice and Benedick are always telling jokes about themselves. = Beatrice tells jokes about Beatrice, and Benedick tells jokes about Benedick.

- 3 Complete each gap with either a reciprocal pronoun or a reflexive pronoun to make a logical sentence.
 - a. Hero and Beatrice talk to as they walk down the streets of Messina.
 - b. At the beginning of the play it seems that Beatrice and Benedick hate
 - c. After they make their funny remarks Beatrice and Benedick are proud of
 - d. When men and women are in love, they often spend a great deal of time looking at in the mirror before meeting their lovers.
 - e. Men and women who are in love spend a great deal of time looking at
 - f. Beatrice and Benedick cannot imagine being married.
 - g. At the end of the play Beatrice and Benedick love

Before you read

Listen to the first part of Chapter Two and indicate which of the synonyms (a, b or c) is actually used in the text.

'Well, my friend? What's all this about you and Hero?' the Prince asked gently.

Orthink I lave has ! Claudia told the Driver Orliked has when I saw has last before we
'I think I love her,' Claudio told the Prince. 'I liked her when I saw her last, before we
went away to the war. Now that I've seen her again, I'm 2 of it - that's
the girl for me!'
'She's a good choice,' Don Pedro told him. 'She's a 3 girl, and she come
from a good family. But why are you so 4
'Perhaps, she won't believe I love her!' Claudio said unhappily. 'Perhaps she'll think
it's all too 5
'6 she'll believe you. And I'll do
what I can to help you. Let me think for a minute.' The Prince and Claudio were silent
then the Prince laughed. 'I know what to do,' he said suddenly. 'There's going to be a
big party at Leonato's house tonight. Everybody will be wearing masks. I'll talk to
Hero. I'll pretend to be you, see?'
A servant was also in the garden that afternoon. He saw the two men walking together
and he was curious to know what they were talking about. The servant hid behind a
tree to hear what was being said.
'Me?' Claudio repeated. 'I don't really 8 what you 9, sir.'
'10, it's ¹¹ ,' Don Pedro said impatiently. 'I'll go up to
Hero, and I'll tell her I love her. I'll tell her I've always loved her, that I can't live
without her. Then I'll go to her father and tell him everything."

1.	a. promenade	b. walk slowly	c. stroll up
2.	a. certain	b. sure	c. positive
3.	a. lovely	b. beautiful	c. very attractive
4.	a. unhappy	b. sad	c. sorrowful
5.	a. quick	b. unexpected	c. sudden
6.	a. Ridiculous	b. Nonsense	c. Rubbish
7.	a. Of course	b. Certainly	c. Surely
8.	a. see	b. understand	c. get
9.	a. are trying to say	b. are driving at	c. mean
10.	a. Why	b. But	c. My goodness
11.	a. easy	b. simple	c. a piece of cake



CHAPTER + TWO

A Gtrategy for Love



on Pedro and Claudio watched Benedick walk away. Then they went into the garden of Leonato's house, and began to stroll 1 up and down together.

'Well, my friend? What's all this about you and Hero?' the Prince asked gently.

'I think I love her,' Claudio told the Prince. 'I liked her when I saw her last, before we'went away to the war. Now that I've seen her again, I'm sure of it – that's the girl for me!'

'She's a good choice,' Don Pedro told him. 'She's a beautiful girl, and she comes from a good family. But why are you so unhappy, Claudio?'

'Perhaps she won't believe I love her!' Claudio said unhappily. 'Perhaps she'll think it's all too sudden.'







'Nonsense,' Don Pedro said. 'Of course she'll believe you. And I'll do what I can to help you. Let me think for a minute.'

The Prince and Claudio were silent, then the Prince laughed. 'I know what to do,' he said suddenly. 'There's going to be a big party

at Leonato's house tonight. Everybody will be wearing

masks. ¹ I'll talk to Hero. I'll pretend to be you, you see?'

A servant was also in the garden that afternoon.

He saw the two men walking together, and he was

curious to know what they

were talking about. The servant hid behind a

tree to hear what was

being said.

'Me?' Claudio repeated. 'I don't really understand what you mean,

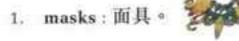
sir.'

'Why, it's simple,'
Don Pedro said
impatiently. 'I'll
go up to Hero, and
I'll tell her I love her.

I'll tell her I've always loved her, that I can't live without her. Then I'll go to her father and tell

him everything."





26

A Strategy for Love

'Don Pedro's in love with Hero!' the servant said to himself. 'I must go and tell my master immediately!'

He ran quickly back into the house.

'Then you'll be able to marry her!' the Prince said triumphantly. 'What do you think of my plan, Claudio?'

Later that afternoon Leonato and his brother
Antonio met in the great house. Antonio had been
invited to the party, and he was in a very good
mood. The two brothers greeted each other
affectionately 1.

'I was looking for you,' Antonio said merrily. 2
'I've got some extraordinary 3 news for you!'

'News? What kind of news?' Leonato asked.

'The Prince is in love with your daughter,'
Antonio told him.

'Don Pedro in love with Hero?' Leonato said. He was very surprised. 'But how do you know this? Who told you?'

'One of my servants was in the garden earlier,'
Antonio explained. 'He saw Don Pedro and
Claudio talking together. He heard the Prince say
that he would speak to Hero at the party tonight —
he's going to tell her he loves her!'

'I can hardly believe it,' Leonato said thoughtfully. 'I'd better tell Hero about this – then she'll know what to do if the Prince speaks to her.'

Although most of Leonato's guests were looking forward to 4 the party, there was one man who refused to join in the general mood of rejoicing. 5 This was Don Pedro's illegitimate 6 brother, Don John. Don John was very

1. affectionately:充满深情地。

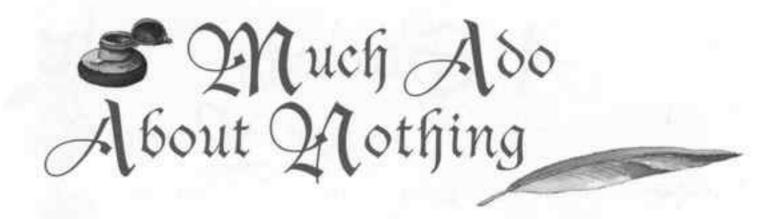
2. merrily:快乐地。

3. extraordinary:非同寻常的。

4. looking forward to:期待。

5. rejoicing: 欢庆。

6. illegitimate:私生的。



jealous of his brother, and he was always plotting ¹ against him. One of his plots had recently failed, and the two brothers had only just become friends again.

One of Don John's friends was Conrad.

'You should be more cheerful, sir,' Conrad advised. 'You and the Prince are friends again. Everything is going well.'

'I can't help it,' Don John told him. 'I don't feel cheerful. I don't like my brother, and I'm forced to be polite to him.'

Just then another of Don John's friends came into the room.

'What's the news, Borachio?' Don John asked.

Borachio smiled.

'There is news, sir,' he announced. 'Claudio is going to marry Hero.'

'How do you know?' Don John asked quickly.

'I heard Don Pedro and Claudio talking in the house,' Borachio told him. 'They've made a plan. Don Pedro is going to win Hero at the party tonight, and then he's going to give her to Claudio.'

'Claudio!' Don John said impatiently. 'I hate that young man. Here I am always in disgrace, ² and Claudio is my brother's favourite. I wish I could do something that would damage Claudio.' He looked at Conrad and Borachio angrily. 'Will you two help me?'

Conrad and Borachio bowed deeply. They knew that Don John was always plotting against somebody.



1. plotting:密谋陷害。

2. in disgrace : 受人鄙视。

Go back to the text

Indicate whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), and then correct the false ones.

		T	F
a.	Claudio has been in love with Hero since he first saw her.		
b.	Don Pedro thinks that Hero is the right woman for Claudio.		
c.	Don Pedro wishes to help Claudio win Hero's love.		
d.	Don Pedro is going to have a big party at his house.		
e.	All the guests at the party will have masks on.		
f.	Don Pedro is going to tell Hero that Claudio loves her.		
g.	Don Pedro is really in love with Hero.		
h.	Don John doesn't like his brother Don Pedro.		
i.	Don John is happy for Claudio and wishes to help him.		

****	***************************************		
000000			

Although most of Leonato's guests were looking forward to the party...

Although and however

Although and however are both used to join contrasting ideas.

Below are five different ways of expressing the same pair of contrasting ideas. Instead of using but we can use although or however. Be careful of the punctuation!

Claudio loves Hero very much, but he is afraid to tell her.

Although Claudio loves Hero very much, he is afraid to tell her.

Claudio is afraid to tell her, although he loves her very much.

Claudio loves Hero very much. However, he is afraid to tell her.

Claudio loves Hero very much. He is, however, afraid to tell her.

2 Join the sentences below using although and however.

Example: Don John is Don Pedro's brother. Don John hates him.

Although Don John is Don Pedro's brother, Don John hates him.

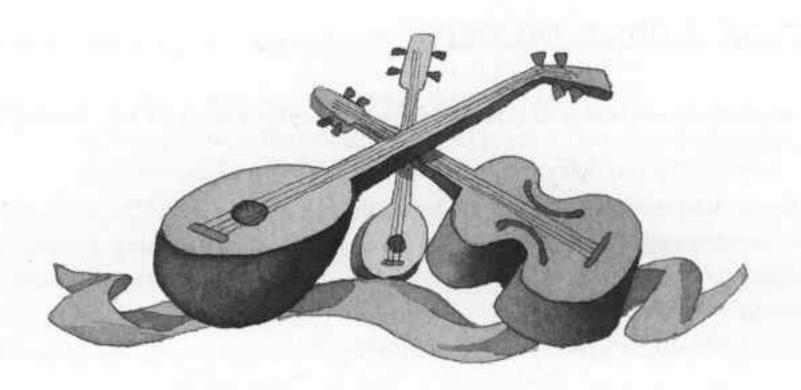
Don John is Don Pedro's brother. However, Don John hates him.

a.	Beatrice is a funny, beautiful young woman. Benedick doesn't like her.
b.	I much prefer Hero. Beatrice is certainly a splendid young woman.
c.	Beatrice says that a friend is like a hat for Benedick. Benedick is a good and faithful friend.
d.	Claudio is going to marry Hero. Claudio has always said that he doesn't want to get married.
e.	Benedick will fall in love someday. Benedick says that he will never surrender to one woman.
f.	It is really Claudio who is in love with Hero. Antonio thinks that the Prince is in love with Hero.
g.	I am Don Pedro's brother. He prefers Claudio to me.
h.	Don John has plotted against his brother before. They are friends now.

Getting it down on paper

Complete the sentences of this summary of Chapter Two or phrases.	vo with the missing words
Claudio liked Hero when he saw her before the war, but 1	now that he
has seen her again he loves her.	
Although 2courage to speak to her directly.	, he doesn't have the
When the Prince hears about Claudio's problem, he 3	
However, a servant 4 Antonio 5	, and tells
Then Antonio tells Leonato and Leonato decides to 6she will know what to do.	Hero so that
Someone else is following the courtship of Hero: it is Don Jo	ohn
Don John is 7	
because 8	
of his two friends, wants to 9	
Listen to Chapter Three twice. The first time you listen complete the following sentences with the second time you listen indicate who says the sentences.	
Benedick, Don Pedro, Hero or Don John.	
a. 'A man without a beard is too young for me.'	Beatrice
b. 'I'll with you if you are	
, and if you don't talk too much.'	*******************
c. 'I want to about love.'	***************************************
d. 'Benedick? Benedick?'	************************
e. 'He thinks he's very but everyone him, really.'	
f. 'I don't like the I don't like it at	
g. 'So the Prince has me.'	

h. 'What a girl she is - I hate her.'



CHAPTER + THREE

Doices behind Masks



here was a grand dinner in the hall of Leonato's house before the party. Everybody ate and drank well, and there was music and laughter.

'Is Don John here?' Leonato asked Antonio. 'I haven't seen him.'

'What an angry man he is!' Beatrice commented. 'He just sits there, he never says anything at all. Still,' she went on, 'he's not like Benedick — that one talks far too much. Really, uncle,' she joked, 'a perfect man would be half like Benedick and half like Don John!'

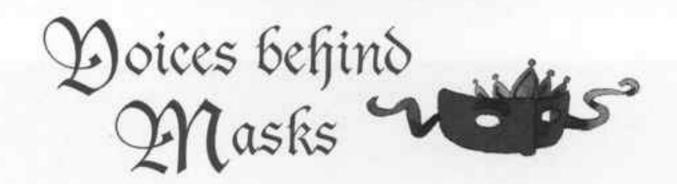
'I hope you find a man like that one day,' Leonato told her kindly. 'I'd like to see you married, Beatrice.'

'I'll never marry, uncle,' Beatrice replied. 'I don't like beards.' ¹ Her uncle laughed.



1. beards:





'What's wrong with a man with a beard?' he asked.

'A man with a beard is too old for me,' Beatrice said.

'What if the man you marry doesn't have a beard, Beatrice?' he asked.

'Impossible!' Beatrice replied sharply. 'A man without a beard is too young for me.'

Antonio turned to Hero. He was thinking about the offer of marriage that he was sure Don Pedro would make her at the party.

'You'll do as your father wants, I hope?' he asked her gently.

'Of course she will!' Beatrice interrupted. 'Hero will do her duty. She'll always say, "as you wish, father," it's her nature.' She paused for a moment. 'But if the man is ugly, Hero, you should refuse him, and say, "as I wish, father." That's what I would do!' she said defiantly. 1

When dinner was finished, everyone went to change for the dance.

They put on masks, and splendid costumes, and then came back into the main hall. The servants had removed the tables, and there was now space for dancing.

Don Pedro approached Hero.

'Will you walk with me?' he asked her tenderly. 'I have something to tell you.'

'I'll walk with you if you are handsome, and if you don't talk too much,' Hero told him.

'I want to talk about love,' Don Pedro said gently. He led her away from the other people in the hall.

Soon everyone was involved in exciting conversations.

Don Pedro's servant, Balthazar, was also wearing a mask. Balthazar was in love with Margaret, one of Hero's ladies-in-waiting. ² He came up to Margaret and began to speak to her.

'I wish you liked me,' he began.

'It's a good thing for you that I don't like you,' Margaret replied. 'You see,' she joked, 'I have a lot of bad qualities.'

1. defiantly: 桀骜不驯地。

2. ladies-in-waiting:高级女仆。







'Bad qualities,' Balthazar repeated. 'What are they?'

'I say my prayers out loud,' Margaret told him.

'I loved you before you told me that,' Balthazar said, 'but now I love you even more. Anyone who hears you pray can say, "amen".'

Benedick decided to punish Beatrice for her rudeness. He came up to her in his mask.

'Someone told me that you're not really witty 1 at all,' he said. 'You get all of your jokes from books - that's what this person said.'

'I bet it was Benedick who said that,' Beatrice replied. 'He doesn't like me at all – it's just the kind of thing Benedick would say about me!'

Benedick was enjoying himself. He could see that Beatrice was angry.

'Benedick?' he asked her. 'Who's Benedick?'

'Surely you know who Benedick is?' Beatrice said.

'I don't know him,' Benedick insisted. 'Who is he?'

'Oh, he's Don Pedro's clown,' 2 Beatrice said angrily. 'He's a fool really, and not funny at all. He just says rude things about everyone, and that makes fools laugh. If people don't laugh at what he says, he gets very unhappy. He thinks he's very clever, but everyone hates him, really.'

The music and dancing went on until very late in the night. At last it was over, and the masked figures began to leave the great hall.

Don John had been watching the dancers with his friends Conrad and Borachio. Don John had seen Don Pedro talking to Hero. He was sure that the Prince was in love with her. He looked gloomily ³ at the few people who were still in the hall. Then he saw a man's figure. He recognised Claudio.

'You're Benedick, aren't you?' he asked.

'I am,' the man replied.

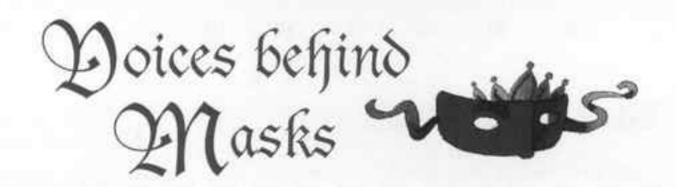
'You're a friend of my brother the Prince,' Don John said. 'Please tell him that he cannot marry Hero. She does not come from a noble family.'



1. witty:风趣。

2. clown: 小丑。

3. gloomily:闷闷不乐地。



'Marry her?' the masked man said. 'What makes you think Don Pedro wants to marry Hero?'

'I heard them talking,' Don John replied. 'He told her he loves her. I don't like the news – I don't like it at all!'

Don John walked away with Conrad and Borachio.

Claudio leant against the wall.

'So the Prince has tricked 1 me,' he thought angrily. 'He was only pretending to win Hero for me – now he has won her for himself!'

Benedick came into the hall. He was looking for his friend.

'You've heard the news?' he asked. 'The Prince has stolen Hero from you, Claudio!'

Claudio groaned 2 loudly.

'Leave me alone, Benedick, just leave me alone!' he cried.

Benedick turned to leave his friend. His own thoughts were not happy ones.

'She said I was Don Pedro's clown,' he thought. 'Do people really call me that? Do they call me that because they think I'm stupid, or because they think I'm witty? Or was it something that Beatrice just invented? Perhaps they don't call me that at all!' he thought. 'What a horrible girl she is — I hate her!'

^{1.} tricked:欺骗。

^{2.} groaned:呻吟。

Go back to the text

Ke	write the following sentences from the text using the words given.
Exa	is too young for me.' MARRY
	Beatrice means that she doesn't want to marry any man.
a.	'You'll do as your father wants, I hope.' WHAT
	I hope
b.	'She'll always say, "as you wish father".' OBEY
c.	She
	You are lucky
d.	'Someone told me that you're not really witty at all. You get all of your jokes from books.' HAVE TO
	Since you are not
e.	'He thinks he's very clever, but everyone hates him really.' ALTHOUGH
	Everyone
f.	'She does not come from a noble family.' NOT
	Her family

He looked gloomily at the few people who were still in the hall.

Defining relative clauses

The part of the sentence beginning with who is called a defining relative clause.

Don John looked gloomily at the few people who were still in the hall.

This kind of relative clause identifies or defines the person or thing we are talking about and so it is called a defining relative clause.

Defining clauses can begin with who (when we are talking about people), which (when we are talking about things) and that (when were talking about either people or things).

Look at the following examples.

- a. William Shakespeare is the playwright who wrote Much Ado About Nothing.
- b. Michael Keaton is the actor that played Dogberry in the film version of Much Ado About Nothing.
- c. Much Ado About Nothing is the play by Shakespeare which always makes me laugh the most.

We can also write sentences d), e), f) and g) without that, whom and which because they are the objects of the verbs in the relative clause.

- d. Don John is the character (that) I hate the most.
- e. Hero is the character (whom) I like the most.
- f. Romeo and Juliet is the play by Shakespeare (which) most people know best.
- g. Michael Keaton is the actor (that) I saw at a party in Hollywood.

2	Join a sentence from column A with a sentence from column B using a relative
	clause with who, which or that, omitting the relative pronoun where possible.

Example: Shakespeare is the famous poet who wrote Much Ado About Nothing.

(This sentence can't be rewritten without the relative pronoun because it is the subject of the verb)

Α.		В.
X.	Shakespeare is the famous poet.	a. It will ruin Claudio.
2.	The messenger gave Leonato a	 Claudio wants to marry her.
04041	letter.	 It will help Claudio win Hero.
3.	Don Pedro has a plan.	d. Beatrice likes to make fun of him.
	Everybody wore masks at the	e. She is always making jokes.
	party.	f. It said that the Prince of Aragon,
5.	Benedick is the man.	Don Pedro, was coming for a visit.
6.	Don John has a plan.	g. Leonato gave it at his house.
	Beatrice is a young woman.	He wrote Much Ado About
	Hero is the young woman.	Nothing.
333		

The opposite of what they seem

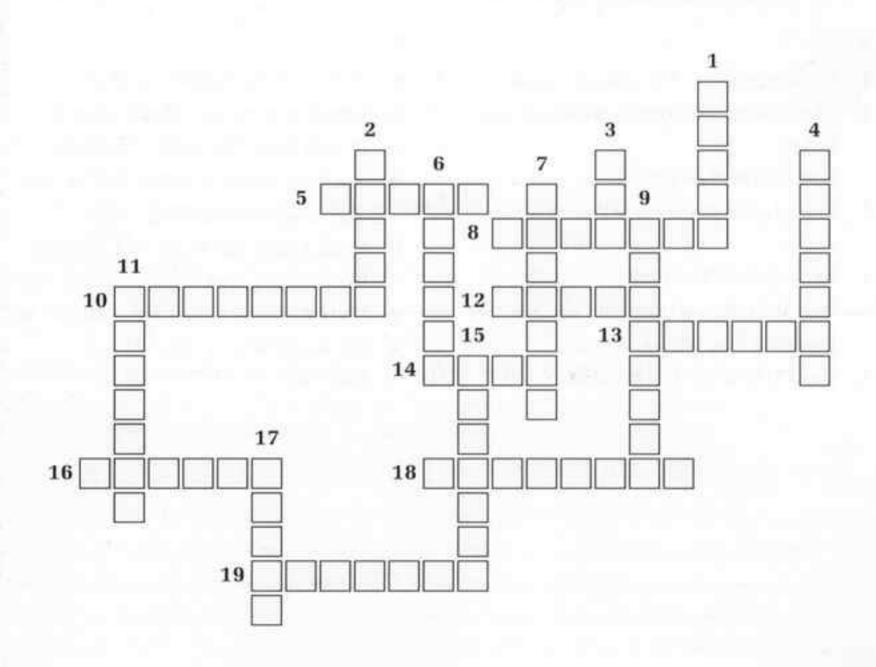
In this play many things are the opposite of what they seem, and the same is true in this crossword puzzle where the clues given are the opposite of the word to be written in the squares. The number in brackets refers to the page where you can find the word.

Across

- 5. Nephew. (17)
- 8. Smiled. (20)
- 10. Merrily. (36)
- 12. Warm appreciation. (20)
- 13. Walk hurriedly. (25)
- 14. Polite. (18)
- Boys have smooth faces, and men have (32)
- 18. Son. (17)
- 19. Gloomily. (27)

Down

- 1. Hated. (36)
- 2. Not humorous. (36)
- 3. Raise yourself. (17)
- 4. Slowly. (18)
- 6. Stupid. (36)
- 7. Treated honestly. (37)
- 9. Words full of logical meaning. (26)
- 11. Made a joyous sound. (37)
- 15. Merry. (20)
- 17. It might not be that way. It only to be that way. (18)



Summing it all up

para	graphs in the right order.
Then	choose the best title from the list below for each paragraph.
a. V	ictors in War. Losers in Love.
b. A	Prince Goes Courting for a Friend.
c. G	ood News
	Woman that Stings Like a Bee
	he Cowardly Lover
f. L	ove is Here to Stay
1 c.)	Leonato, the Governor of Messina, was strolling through the city when he received a letter. The letter said that Don Pedro, the Prince of Aragon was coming for a visit. Don Pedro had just won an important battle, and since he had lost few men, everyone was in a festive mood.
\mathbb{D}	That evening at the party, Don Pedro went to Hero and pretended to be Claudio; he said that he loved her. All would have been fine except that Don Pedro's brother Don John had seen him talking with Hero, and Don John hated his brother.
\Box	Unfortunately, Claudio was afraid to declare his love to Hero. However, Don Pedro had an idea. That night there was going to be a masked party at Leonato's. Don Pedro would pretend that he was Claudio and go and talk to Hero.
	Later, Don Pedro arrived with the two young noblemen Benedick and Claudio. Benedick immediately began to exchange sarcastic remarks with Beatrice, but Claudio was busy thinking. Indeed, Claudio now knew that Hero was the woman for him, and he decided that he wanted to marry her.
\mathbb{D}	So, later when Don John recognized Claudio, he told him that Don Pedro wanted to marry Hero. Claudio became very upset, but he wasn't alone. His friend Benedick had talked to Beatrice at the party. He was also pretending to be somebody else. Beatrice had told Benedick that everybody thought he was a fool. Benedick was now wondering whether Beatrice had told him the truth or not.
	Leonato had a beautiful daughter named Hero, and a very spirited and with niece named Beatrice. Beatrice wanted to know if a certain Florentine nobleman named Benedick had survived the battle. In her own way Beatrice was happy when she discovered that he was still alive because she took great pleasure in making fun of him.



Tragic and Comic Elements in Much Ado About Nothing

A lthough *Much Ado About Nothing* is undoubtedly a comedy, many critics have commented on the tragedy in the play. An interesting comparison can be made between this play and *Romeo and Juliet*, where the tragic elements dominate. ¹ The key feature of the plot in both plays concerns the intervention of a friar in a young couple's love. In *Romeo and Juliet* the friar tries to help the lovers by giving Juliet a drug that will simulate ² death. Tragedy occurs when a letter goes astray. ³ Romeo commits suicide when he thinks that Juliet is dead. She wakes up, sees his body, and kills herself.

In *Much Ado About Nothing* the friar's intention to help Hero also concerns the fiction that she is dead. In this play, however, there is no expectation of a tragic outcome. Borachio and Conrad may have been successful in persuading Claudio and Don Pedro that Hero has a lover, but the plot has no chance of success because Dogberry and the constables arrest Borachio and Conrad, and the audience knows that the truth will

Scene from the film Much Ado About Nothing by Kenneth Branagh.

1. dominate:是最重要的特点。

2. simulate:模仿。

3. goes astray:出差错。

soon be discovered.

Dogberry and his colleagues are a source of English comedy in the play. They are in the same tradition as Bottom in A Midsummer Night's Dream. They are enthusiastic, naive, and their language is an absurd 4 mixture of pretension 5 and error. Despite their failings, however, they uncover 6 the truth of the plot.

4. absurd:滑稽可笑的。

5. pretension: 矫饰, 做作。

6. uncover:发现。



One of the important themes of the play is that love can be created and destroyed by very trivial ¹ forces, such as gossip and misunderstanding. This theme also contributes to the dominance of comic elements over tragic. The characters in *Much Ado About Nothing* fall in and out of love with each other as a result of what they hear from other people. Hero, for example, falls in love with Claudio because of what Don Pedro says to her when he is in disguise at the masked dance. Claudio falls out of love with Hero because of what he has heard about her disloyalty from Don John, and what he thinks he sees when he is outside her bedroom window.

Benedick and Beatrice fall in love because of Don Pedro's plot – they listen to conversations in which they seem to learn that they are loved by the other. In this play, plans and plots become the basis of real love. Benedick and Beatrice may have been the victims of Don Pedro's plot to make them fall in love, but the plot has enabled them to discover what they really feel for each other. This is the real point of the poem that Benedick writes to Beatrice, and Beatrice's letter to Benedick. His comment 'our hands against our hearts' shows that their actions are those of love, even if they do not realise they love each other.

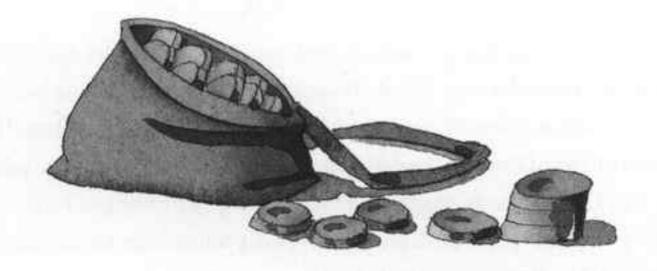
1 Answer the following questions.

a.	What are the similarities between Romeo and Juliet and Much Ado About Nothing?	
b.	What are the differences?	
c.	How does the staged death end in Romeo and Juliet?	
d.	What kind of character is Dogberry?	
e.	What does Much Ado About Nothing say about love?	
f.	What does Benedick mean when he says 'our hands against our hearts'?	

1. trivial: 微不足道的。

Before you read

		T	F
a.	Leonato has given Claudio permission to marry Hero.		
b.	Benedick can't stand Hero.		
c.	Beatrice is happy for Claudio and Hero.		
d.	Benedick leaves the room because he doesn't want to talk to Hero.		
e.	Claudio is very impatient to be married.		
f.	The Prince is joking when he says that he will arrange a wedding between Benedick and Beatrice.		
g.	Claudio has a plan to arrange a wedding between Beatrice		



CHAPTER + FOUR

Two Brothers, Two Plans



enedick was walking out of the hall when he met Don Pedro. The Prince asked him where Claudio was. 'He's in the hall, sir,' Benedick said coldly. 'He's very upset 1 about what's happened. You shouldn't have stolen Hero from him.'

'Stolen Hero? I haven't stolen Hero from Claudio,' Don Pedro said. 'I've just asked Leonato if Claudio can marry her! By the way, Benedick,' he went on, 'Beatrice is angry with you. What's all that about?'

'It's a silly business, sir,' Benedick said. 'That girl is always so rude to me – I can't stand ² her!'

1. upset: 对…感到伤心。

2. can't stand: 无法容忍。



Soon they could hear happy voices and laughter from the hall. Claudio came out holding Hero by the hand. Beatrice and Leonato were with them.

'You see, Benedick,' the Prince said happily, 'I told you the truth. Leonato has said that Claudio and Hero can be married. Now do you believe that I'm Claudio's friend?'

'Yes, I believe you,' replied Benedick, 'but please excuse me now. I don't want to talk to Beatrice.' He left the room.

The Prince turned to Claudio with a big smile. 'What do you say, my young friend? I won Hero for you, didn't I?'

Claudio blushed. 1

'I'm so happy that I don't know what to say,' he began. 'I...'

'You say something then, Hero,' Beatrice interrupted. 'Or better still, just kiss him – then neither of you has to say anything!'

4 Suddenly she looked serious.

'Everyone is getting married except me,' she said quietly.

'I'll find you a husband,' Don Pedro offered.

Beatrice laughed.

'Thank you, sir, but I'll never marry,' she replied. She turned to Claudio and Hero. 'Congratulations to you both,' she said kindly. 'I'm happy for you.'

E Leonato signalled to Beatrice to leave them. Beatrice bowed to the Prince and left.

Don Pedro was very pleased with himself. He had promised Claudio that he would win Hero for him, and he had succeeded. Now he began to wonder ² if he could not find a husband for Beatrice as well.

'Well, my friend, you'll be a married man one week from now,' he remarked.

'It'll be the longest week of my life,' Claudio said. 'I wish the wedding were tomorrow!'



1. blushed:脸红。

2. wonder:自问。

Two Brothers, Two Plans

Suddenly an idea occurred to Don Pedro.

'I know you're impatient to be married,' he said to Claudio and Hero.

'But we'll make this week a very pleasant one for you both, I promise. I'm going to arrange another wedding – between Beatrice and Benedick!'



Everybody laughed. They thought the Prince was joking.

Don Pedro held up his hand.

'No, I'm serious,' he told them all. 'I think I can do it. But I shall need your help. What do you say, Leonato – will you help me to arrange it?'

'I'll do everything I can,' Leonato said. 'But I don't see how you'll manage 1 it, sir. Benedick and Beatrice hate each other!'

'What about you, Claudio - will you help me?' the Prince asked.

'Of course I will,' Claudio replied.

'And you, Hero? Will you help as well?' Don Pedro asked.

'I'll do everything I can to get a good husband for Beatrice,' Hero told him.

'A good husband,' Don Pedro said thoughtfully. 'I think Benedick will be a good husband for Beatrice, you know. This is what we'll do,' he said excitedly.

The Prince began to explain his plan.

The Prince's brother, Don John, was also busy with plans of his own. He knew now that it was Claudio who was going to marry Hero, and not the Prince. Don John decided to spoil 2 the wedding because he wanted to hurt his brother and Claudio. He discussed the matter with Borachio.

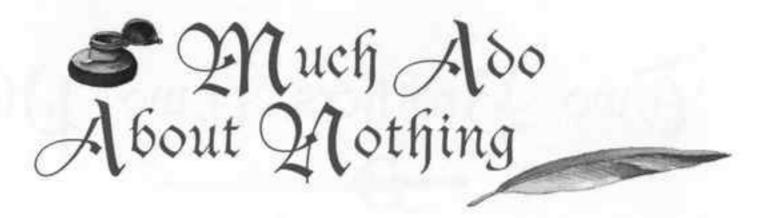
'I've got an idea, sir!' Borachio said excitedly. 'I think I know how we can spoil this wedding.'

'Well, what is it?' Don John asked impatiently. 'What are we going to do?'

1. manage: 做成某事。

2. spoil:破坏。





Borachio explained that he was very close to Margaret, Hero's lady-inwaiting.

'Very close, sir, if you understand me,' he said with a smile. 'Close enough to go to her bedroom at night!'

'What does that matter?' Don John wanted to know. 'How can that help us?'

'It's very easy to go from Margaret's room to Hero's,' Borachio said with a smile.

'I still don't understand what you mean,' Don John told him. 'What are you going to do?'

Borachio explained his plan.

'Don Pedro thinks that Hero is a beautiful and honourable girl. Go and tell him that you have discovered that she is not honourable at all, sir. Tell the Prince that Hero has a secret lover — me! Say that you can prove it. Wait until it's late at night. Make Claudio and Don Pedro stand under Hero's bedroom window. I will then stand at the window. I'll talk to Margaret as if she were Hero — and Margaret will seem to be Hero. Don't you see, sir?' he asked excitedly. 'The Prince and Claudio will think Hero is in love with me — Claudio will call off 1 the wedding!'

'What about Hero?' Don John asked. 'What if she hears you and Margaret talking?'

'Don't worry, sir,' Borachio promised. 'I'll make sure that she isn't in her room that night.'

'It might just work!' Don John said quietly. 'Let's try your plan, Borachio. If it works, I'll give you a thousand ducats.' ²



1. call off:取消。

2. ducats:金币。



Go back to the text

- Chapter Four has been divided into eight sections. Choose the best title for each section.
 - a. Benedick's Confusion
 - b. Lovers United
 - c. Time Will Tell
 - d. Sealed With a Kiss
 - e. Beatrice, the Odd Woman Out
 - f. A Game for a Long, Slow Week
 - g. Friends Plot to Help Friends
 - h. The Man Who Hated Weddings
 - i. A Sinister 1 Case of Mistaken Identity

'You shouldn't have stolen Hero from him.'

Should

Look at these two sentences and the explanations which follow.

The basic idea of both is the same, except that (a) is in the present and (b) is in the past.

- a. You shouldn't steal Hero from him = It is not a good thing for you to steal Hero from him.
- b. You shouldn't have stolen Hero from him = It was not a good thing for you to steal Hero from him.

Or

- a. Benedick should marry Beatrice = It is a good thing for Benedick to marry Beatrice.
- b. Benedick should have married Beatrice = It was a good thing for Benedick to marry Beatrice, but he didn't.

The basic structure in the past is:

 $Subject + should \ (or \ shouldn't) + have + past \ participle \ of \ verb.$



1. sinister: 邪恶的。

2 Choose the correct verb from the box to complete the sentence, using the past of should. Some verbs can be used more than once.

Example: Claudio .@houldn't.have.been. angry with Don Pedro.

f. Benedick that Don Pedro was really Claudio's friend.

'I won Hero for you, didn't I?'

Question tags

Question tags have numerous uses in English.

- I won Hero for you, didn't I? The speaker is asking the other person to agree with him.
- Don John didn't really try to ruin the wedding, did he? The speaker is expressing surprise.
- That's Beatrice over there, isn't it? The speaker is asking the other person for confirmation of the information – the speaker is checking a fact.

Question tags use the same auxiliary verbs or inversion as regular questions; the main difference is that the main verb (except with the verb 'to be') does not appear. If the main sentence is affirmative, the question tag is negative, and vice versa. Finally, when the question tag is negative, the contracted form of the verb is generally used.

· You saw the film, didn't you?

3 For each sentence and question tag indicate which tense is being used.

9	Affirmative sentences – Negative question tags	
	1. Much Ado About Nothing has got a happy ending, hasn't it?	***************************************
	2. You would marry her, wouldn't you?	
	3. You are going to Messina tomorrow, aren't you?	
	4. You like dancing, don't you?	
	5. Shakespeare wrote Much Ado About Nothing, didn't he?	
	6. Don Pedro has arrived, hasn't he?	
	7. She's from Florence, isn't she?	
	8. There are two gentlemen from Verona here, aren't there?	

B. Negative sentences - Affirmative question tags

	1.	You aren't going to fight Claudio, are you?	(*****************************
	2.	There isn't much to do, is there?	***************************************
	3.	Hero hasn't really betrayed Claudio, has she?	
	4.	You don't like that woman, do you?	***************************************
	5.	Don Pedro didn't ask Hero to get married, did he?	
	6.	You wouldn't marry her, would you?	
	7.	You haven't got a light, have you?	***************************************
	8.	He isn't very intelligent, is he?*	
	*	Notice the imperior with the 1st person singular	of the work to be
	(3))	Notice the irregularity with the 1st-person singular I am the man you love, aren't I? (aren't I = am I not)	
		I am the man you love, aren i v. (aren i v = am v not)	**
A	. M	atch the question tags with the sentences.	
		don't they? did he? haven't they?	will you?
		won't you? wasn't there? was there?	didn't he?
		Shakespeare wrote many comedies,	
		There was a man outside Hero's window,	MINISTERNA
	3.	He didn't really do that,	
		You will help me,	
		There wasn't a constable there,	
		You won't ever get married,	
		They have beautiful masks,	
	8.	They have got a beautiful house,	
B	No	ow add question tags to following sentences.	
	1	Benedick was walking out of the hall when he met	Don Pedro
	1.	?	Don't edito,
	2	Claudio came out holding Hero by the hand,	7
		I am the only one not getting married,	
		Don Pedro was very pleased with himself,	
	5.		
		Hero would never betray Claudio,?	
		is considered a negative sentence, so it takes an affir	
	7.	She didn't really have a lover,?	ominero anno su commendante casarril distato (gilli indicesso
		This is the end of this exercise,?	

Before you read

	d the passage carefully. Some of the lines are correct which is incorrect. If a line is correct, put a tick (
line	is incorrect, write the word in the space. Then listen	and check.
	edick was walking in Leonato's garden. was thinking all about his friend Claudio.	a ll
1.	'He's certainly very different now that he's in love with Hero,' he told to himself.	
2.	'Claudio and I used to be very much similar.	
3.	We used to laugh at men who fell over in love. Now look at him!	
4.	He's lost his interest in the army, all he cares about is Hero and what she thinks!'	***************************************
5.	Benedick had shook his head impatiently.	
6.	'No,' he told himself, 'I like women, but I'll not never fall in love with one.	
7.	That's for sure!'	
8.	Just then he saw the Prince and a group of men come all into the garden. One of the men was Claudio.	***************************************
9.	'The great lover!' Benedick laughed to himself. 'I'll hide myself here,	
10.	and hear what Claudio and the Prince are being talking about'	********************
11.	The Prince, however, had already seen Benedick in the garden.	***************************************
12.	He touched Claudio on the his arm, and pointed to where Benedick was hiding.	
13.	'Remember my plan to make Benedick fall in love with Beatrice,' he said softly.	***************************************
14.	Don Pedro called Balthazar loudly. 'Let's have some music, my friend,' he commanded.	
15.	'I want to hear to that song you were singing before.'	*******************



CHAPTER + FIVE

Benedick and Beatrice in the Garden



enedick was walking in Leonato's garden. He was thinking about his friend Claudio.

'He's certainly very different now that he's in love with Hero,' he told himself. 'Claudio and I used to be very similar. We used to laugh at men who fell in love. Now

look at him! He's lost his interest in the army, all he cares about is Hero and what she thinks!'

Benedick shook his head impatiently.

'No,' he told himself, 'I like women, but I'll never fall in love with one.
That's for sure!'

Just then he saw the Prince and a group of men coming into the garden. One of the men was Claudio.

Benedick and Beatrice in the Barden

'The great lover!' Benedick laughed to himself. 'I'll hide here, and hear what Claudio and the Prince are talking about.'

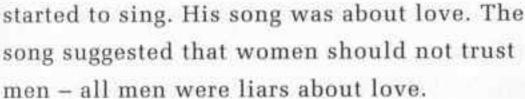
The Prince, however, had already seen Benedick in the garden. He touched Claudio on the arm, and pointed to where Benedick was hiding.

'Remember my plan to make Benedick fall in love with Beatrice,' he said softly. 1

Don Pedro called Balthazar loudly.

'Let's have some music, my friend,' he commanded. 'I want to hear that song you were singing before.'

Balthazar stepped forward. The musicians began to play, and Balthazar



'Sigh² no more, ladies, sigh no more,

Men were deceivers 3 ever; 4

One foot in sea, one foot on shore,

To one thing constant 5 never.

Then sigh not so,

But let them go,

and you'll be blithe 6 and bonny,7

Converting all your sounds of woe 8

Into hey nonny, nonny."



1. softly:轻声地。

2. sigh: 叹息。

deceivers:(此处指)情场骗子。

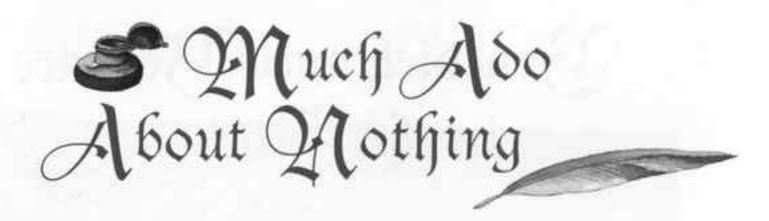
4. ever: 总是。

5. constant:忠诚的。

6. blithe: 欢乐的。

7. bonny:健康愉快的。

8. woe: 痛苦。



Everyone applauded 1 when the song was finished.

'That was a good song, my friend,' Don Pedro told Balthazar.

'Remember that we shall want some good songs tomorrow night. We're all going to sing outside Hero's bedroom window.'

'I shall do my best,' Balthazar replied politely. He bowed to the Prince and walked back to the house with the musicians.

Don Pedro waited until Balthazar and the musicians were out of sight. Then he looked at the place where Benedick was hiding, and winked ² at Claudio. Claudio smiled back at him.

The Prince began to speak in a loud voice to Leonato.

'What was that you were saying before?' he asked. 'Something about Beatrice being in love with Benedick?'

Leonato winked back at Claudio and Don Pedro before he replied.

'It's true, sir,' he said very seriously. 'I can hardly ³ believe it myself. Beatrice has always been rude to Benedick – but she loves him, there's no doubt about that.'

'Perhaps she's just pretending to be in love,' Don Pedro said. 'What makes you think she's really in love?'

'She told you all about it, didn't she?' Leonato said to Claudio. 'Did you think she was pretending?'

'She's really in love,' Claudio replied. 'The poor girl loves Benedick desperately, she told me herself. But she'll never say anything to him. She can't tell him, you see, because she's always been so rude to him. She thinks Benedick would just laugh at her.'

'She's even tried writing a letter to tell him what she feels,' Leonato said. 'But she didn't send it. She tore the letter up. Poor girl, she's suffering very badly!'



1. applauded: 鼓掌。

2. winked:眨眼示意。

3. hardly:几乎不。



Don Pedro was very pleased at the way his plan was going. He found it difficult not to laugh. He controlled himself, however.

'Why don't we tell Benedick that Beatrice is in love with him?' he suggested. 'Perhaps we could help Beatrice by letting him know.'

'No, no, you mustn't do that!' Claudio interrupted. 'It would do Beatrice no good. Benedick would just laugh at her. We mustn't say anything, sir.'

The men stayed in the garden for a while longer, and then they all went back into the house.

Benedick remained ¹ in the garden by himself. He was very surprised at what he had heard. He began to think about Beatrice in a new way.

'It's true she's a beautiful girl,' he told himself. 'She's also a very honourable girl, there's no doubt about that. They say she loves me.'

His ideas about Beatrice began to change.

'Perhaps I've been wrong about her,' he thought. 'She's a lovely girl, after all!'

He began to walk slowly back to the house. He was very thoughtful. Suddenly, he saw Beatrice in the garden. He was pleased to see her, and he smiled at her.

'I've been sent to look for you,' Beatrice told him coldly. 'Dinner is ready, and everyone is waiting for you.'

Benedick decided to be very polite to Beatrice now that he thought she loved him.

'Thank you for the trouble 2 you have taken to find me,' he said courteously. 3

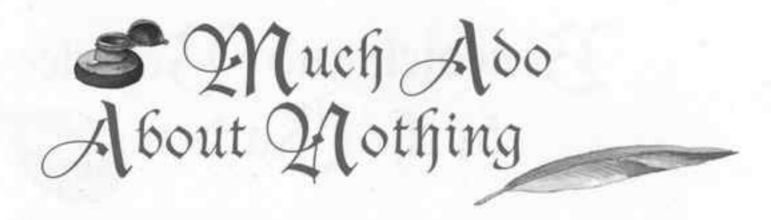
'Trouble?' Beatrice repeated. 'It was no trouble to come and look for you.'

1. remained: 逗留。

2. trouble: 烦劳,辛苦。

3. courteously:彬彬有礼地。

00m



'If it was no trouble, perhaps it was a pleasure to come and look for me?' Benedick asked gently.

'What makes you think it was a pleasure?' Beatrice replied angrily. She walked away from Benedick.

Benedick followed her into the house.

'There's no doubt about it,' he thought. 'She's in love with me, all right. She said it was "no trouble" to come and look for me. She really does love me!'

The first part of Don Pedro's plan had gone well. Benedick was sure that Beatrice loved him, and he was beginning to look at her in a different way.

Now it was Hero's turn to persuade Beatrice that Benedick loved her. She went into the garden with her two ladies-in-waiting, Ursula and Margaret. She sent Margaret to look for Beatrice.

'Tell her that we're talking about her,' Hero ordered Margaret. 'Tell her to come and listen to what we say.'

Margaret went back into the house, and soon Beatrice came into the garden. Beatrice approached Hero and Ursula carefully, so that she would not be seen. She listened to the conversation of the two girls. At first she could not believe what she was hearing.

'So you see,' Hero was saying to Ursula, 'poor Benedick is terribly ¹ in love with Beatrice.'

'Are you sure about that?' Ursula asked. 'I thought that Benedick did not like Beatrice at all.'

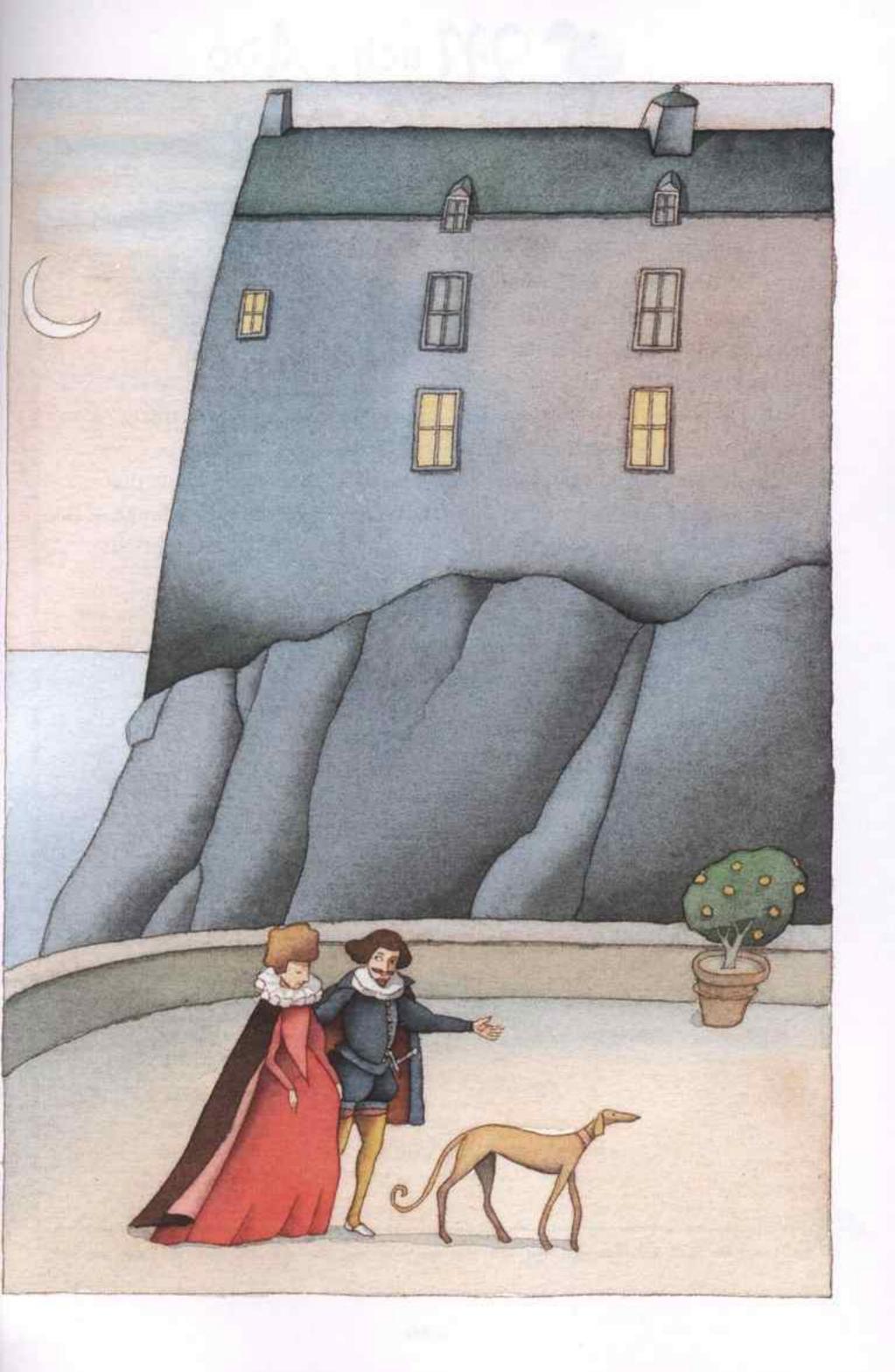
'It's true,' Hero told her. 'Claudio and the Prince told me all about it.

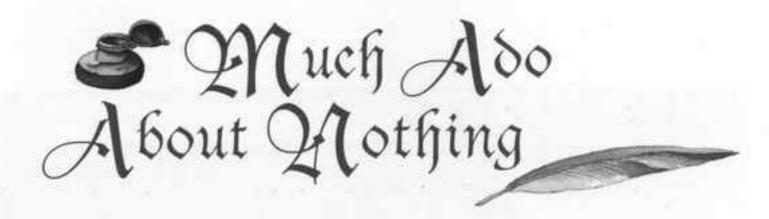
They asked me to talk to Beatrice, but I said it would do no good. Beatrice is very proud, and she would just laugh at poor Benedick.'

'You're probably right,' Ursula agreed. Then she went on in a loud



1. terribly:极度地。





voice. 'Beatrice is so proud that she can't love anyone. It's better not to say anything to her about Benedick. She would just make the poor man suffer horribly with her cruelty and her jokes.'

'I'm going to talk to Benedick,' Hero said. 'I'm going to help him if I can. I'm going to tell him that he's far too good for Beatrice.'

Ursula sighed deeply.

'It's true that Benedick is a very handsome man,' she said softly. 'Many women would be happy if he fell in love with them.'

Ursula and Hero began to walk back to the house. They knew that Beatrice had been listening to their talk. They both wanted to laugh at the trick 1 they had played on Beatrice, but they managed to look serious.

Beatrice was not pleased at what she had heard.

'My friends think I am too proud to love!' she told herself. 'They say Benedick loves me. They say he is a good man. Perhaps they're right – perhaps I should love Benedick!'



Go back to the text

	II did Gldi
1.	How did Claudio use to react to men who were in love?
	a. He used to be sad because he wanted to be in love.
	b. He used to laugh at them.
	C. He used to ignore them.
	d. He used to wonder how it was possible to be in love with a woman.
2.	How has Claudio changed?
	a. He only thinks about what Hero thinks and he no longer cares about
	the army.
	b. He no longer cares about what Hero thinks.
	c. Now, he only wants to listen to love songs.
	d. Now, he only wants to go to parties.
3.	Why does Don Pedro wink at Claudio?
	a. To let him know that they can begin talking about how Beatrice is in
	love with Benedick.
	b. Because he likes Claudio. c. To let him know that Benedick is hiding nearby.
	d. To let him know that Benedick is hiding hearby.
1	According to Claudio why doesn't Beatrice tell Benedick that she loves him?
ж.	a. Because she is still angry with him.
	b. Because she is afraid, after all their fights, that he will make fun of he
	c. Because she herself is not sure that she is in love with him.
	d. Because Beatrice is not from a noble family.
5	How does Benedick speak to Beatrice now that he thinks she is in love with
	him?
	a. He is very polite and kind.
	b. He is even ruder than usual.
	c. He is timid.
	d. He tries to be witty.
6.	How does Beatrice react to Benedick?
	a. She too is very polite and kind.
	b. She speaks to him in a rude and abrupt manner.
	c. She too becomes timid.
	d. She is shocked.

'Beatrice is so proud that she can't love anyone.'

So	an	d	C	11	C	h
.,,	an	•		ш		

Look at these two sentences:

Beatrice is so proud.

Beatrice is such a proud person.

Here, both so and such make the adjective even stronger; the only difference is that so is used with just the adjective, while such is used with the adjective and the noun.

Often so and such are used before a result or consequence clause beginning with 'that'.

Beatrice is so proud that she can't love anyone.

Beatrice is such a proud woman that she can't love anyone.

2 Add so or such to the sentences in column A, and then combine them with the sentences in column B using the correct verb from the box in the correct tense.

Example: Beatrice's jokes about Benedick were so rude that the messenger was shocked.

- A.
- Beatrice's jokes about Benedick were rude.
- 2. Claudio is timid.
- 3. Don Pedro has made a good plan.
- 4. Benedick tells funny stories.
- 5. Don John is jealous.
- Balthazar sang a beautiful song.
- 7. Claudio will be angry when he discovers that Hero has a secret lover.
- B. applaud call off decide believe laugh ask
- a. Benedick actually that Beatrice loves him.
- b. He the wedding.
- c. Everybody always
- The messenger shocked.
- e. He to ruin Claudio's wedding.
- f. He Don Pedro to talk to Hero.
- g. Everyone

Some extra information

Non-defining relative clauses

We have already looked at defining relative clauses (see page 38).

These clauses tell us specifically which person or thing we are talking about: defining relative clauses are essential to the meaning of the sentence.

But there is another kind of relative clause, the non-defining relative clause: it adds extra information.

Much Ado About Nothing, which we saw five times, was written by William Shakespeare.

Here, the non-defining relative clause (which we saw five times) is not essential to the meaning of the sentence, we know exactly which play the speaker is talking about.

That is the play which we saw five times.

Here, without the defining relative clause (which we saw five times), we don't know which play the speaker is talking about.

In addition, in non-defining clauses we only use which and who never that. Which and who can never be omitted.

Finally, the non-defining relative clause is always separated from the rest of the sentence by commas.

3 Add the extra information to make sentences with non-defining relative clauses.

It takes place in Messina. She is Hero's cousin.

He has always sworn that he would never fall in love.

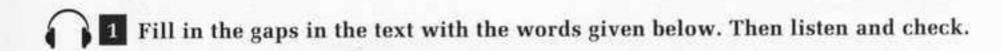
They were only published after the playwright's death.

He is Don Pedro's brother. He is a brave and capable soldier.

Example: Shakespeare's plays, which were only published after the playwright's death, are often considered masterpieces of world literature.

- a. Shakespeare's plays are often considered masterpieces of world literature.
- b. Much Ado About Nothing talks about the fragility of love.
- c. Beatrice is always making witty remarks.
- d. Don John plots to destroy the love between Claudio and Hero.
- e. Claudio is afraid to declare his love to Hero.
- f. Because of Don Pedro's clever plan Benedick is beginning to look at Beatrice differently.

Before you read



short journey serious right make exchanged explain hair want jokes place anything don't day wedding

Later that 1 the Prince and Leonato were talking to Claudio and
Benedick. 'I must go home after your ² , my friend,' Don Pedro told
Claudio. 'Then I will accompany you on the 3' Claudio offered.
'It's the least I can do after your kindness to me.' 'Nonsense!' the Prince replied.
'Your 4 is with your new wife. You don't want to go on a long
journey just after your wedding. No, I'll take Benedick with me. He's the man I
5 once he starts telling his
7 and stories.' 'The truth is, I'm not as witty as I once was,'
Benedick admitted. 'I ⁸ know why it is.' Don Pedro and Claudio
9 a secret smile with each other. They knew why Benedick was
more 10, than he had been. They knew he was thinking about
Beatrice. 'You do look quite sad,' Claudio told his friend sympathetically.
'Is 11 the matter?' 'It's just a toothache,' Benedick replied crossly.
'It'll pass.' 'Toothache?' Don Pedro said. 'I never knew that a toothache could
12 a man look sad, Benedick.' Benedick blushed fiercely. 'I think
he's in love,' Claudio said with a laugh. 'Look at the careful way he's dressed, and
the trouble he takes with his 13 – he's a man in love, I tell you!'
'You may be 14' Don Pedro agreed. 'That would 15
why he looks so sad, as well.'



CHAPTER + SIX

Benedick suffers for Love



ater that day the Prince and Leonato were talking to Claudio and Benedick.

'I must go home after your wedding, my friend,' Don Pedro told Claudio.

'Then I will accompany you on the journey,' Claudio offered. 'It's the least I can do after your kindness to me.'

'Nonsense!' the Prince replied. 'Your place is with your new wife. You don't want to go on a long journey just after your wedding. No, I'll take Benedick with me. He's the man I want. The journey will be short once he starts telling his jokes and stories.'

'The truth is, I'm not as witty as I once was,' Benedick admitted. 'I don't know why it is.'

Don Pedro and Claudio exchanged a secret smile with each other. They



knew why Benedick was more serious than he had been. They knew he was thinking about Beatrice.

'You do look quite sad,' Claudio told his friend sympathetically. 'Is anything the matter?'

'It's just a toothache,' Benedick replied crossly. 1 'It'll pass.'

'Toothache?' Don Pedro said. 'I never knew that toothache could make a man look sad, Benedick.'

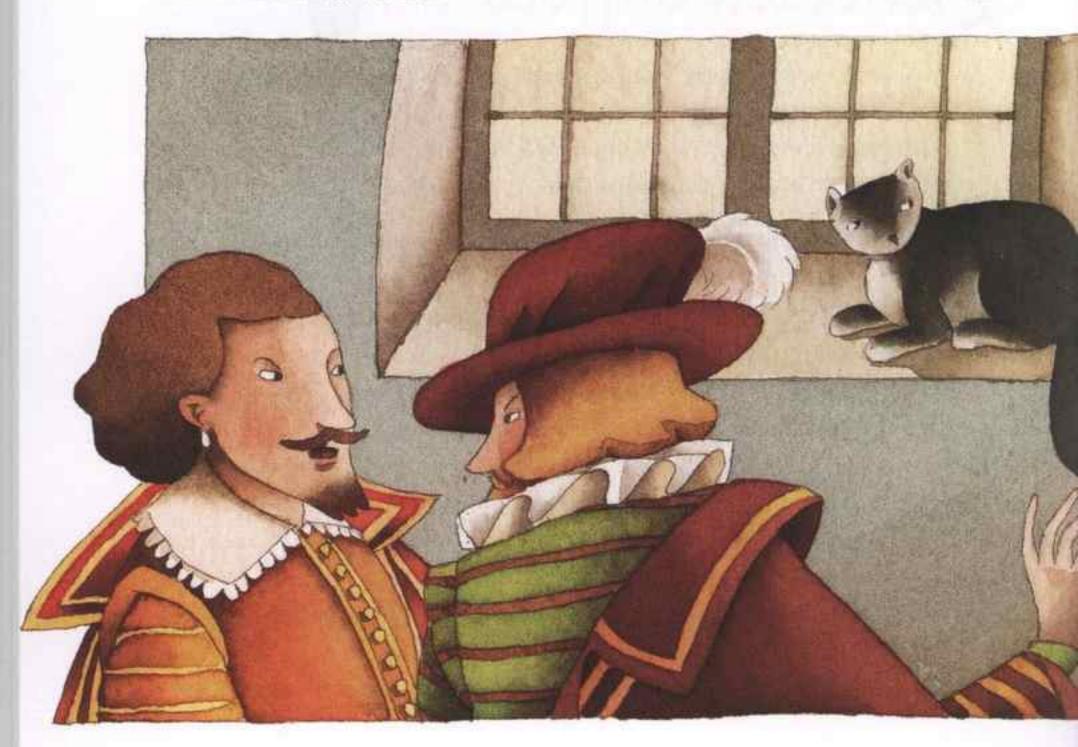
Benedick blushed fiercely. 2

'I think he's in love,' Claudio said with a laugh. 'Look at the careful



1. crossly:生气地。

2. blushed fiercely: 满脸通红。





way he's dressed, and the trouble he takes with his hair - he's a man in love, I tell you!'

'You may be right,' Don Pedro agreed. 'That would explain why he looks so sad, as well.'

END

Benedick did not enjoy his friends' jokes. He frowned for a moment, and then he suddenly turned to Leonato.

'Come with me, sir,' he said quickly. 'I have something important that I want to ask you.'

Leonato and Benedick walked away together.

'He's going to speak to Leonato!' Don Pedro said excitedly. 'He's going to ask for permission to marry Beatrice.'

There was a knock at the door, and Don John came into the room. He bowed politely to Claudio, and then spoke to his brother.

'I have something to tell you,' he said very seriously.

'Something to tell me?' the Prince repeated slowly. 'Is it something private, or can Claudio stay and hear?'

'What I have to say also concerns

Claudio,' Don John replied. Now he spoke to Claudio. 'I know you are getting married tomorrow,' he said. 'My news is about Hero,' he went on. 'I've discovered that she is not an honourable girl – she has a lover!'

Don Pedro and Claudio
were shocked by Don John's
words. They did not know
what to say. For a moment
neither of them said
anything.

'I know it's hard to believe,' Don John





continued, 'but I'm telling you the truth. I can prove that Hero is disloyal to you. Come with me tonight, both of you. We'll stand outside Hero's bedroom window – you'll see what I've told you is the truth!'

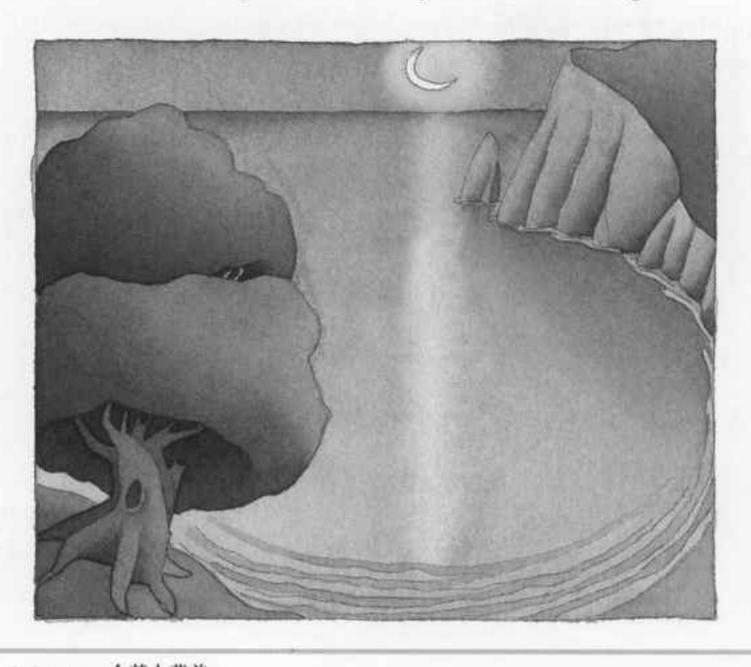
'I can't believe it!' Claudio said angrily.

'Nor me!' Don Pedro agreed.

'I'm telling you the truth,' Don John said firmly. 'I don't want you to make a terrible mistake, Claudio. You can't marry a girl who behaves like Hero – she would dishonour 1 you!'

Claudio thought for a moment. He loved Hero, but he was also very proud. He did not like the idea that Hero might be making a fool of him. At last he made up his mind.

'Very well,' he told Don John, 'I'll come with you tonight. And if you're right about Hero,' he decided angrily, 'I'll disgrace her at the church tomorrow morning – I'll tell everyone what sort of girl she is!'





1. dishonour:令某人蒙羞。

Go back to the text

Choo	se the best answers (a, b, c or d) for the following questions.
1. W	ho is going to accompany Don Pedro on his journey home?
	a. Benedick.
	b. Claudio.
	c. Leonato.
	d. Beatrice.
2. W	hy does Don Pedro like travelling with Benedick?
	a. Because Benedick knows how to fight and can, therefore, protect the Prince.
	b. Because Benedick knows all the roads.
	c. Because Benedick is a good horseman.
Ē	d. Because Benedick tells funny stories that make time pass more quickly.
3. W	hy doesn't Don Pedro think that Benedick really has a toothache?
	a. Because Benedick has good teeth.
	b. Because Benedick would have already gone to a dentist.
	c. Because toothaches don't make men look sad.
	d. Because Benedick eats without any difficulty.
4. W	hy does Benedick dress so well now?
	a. Because he is in love.
	b. Because he does not have to fight any wars, so he can now spend
	time on his clothing.
	c. Because he likes dressing well for the Prince.
	d. Because he is going to a masked ball.
5. W	hat does Don John tell the Prince about Hero?
	a. That she is really in love with the Prince.
	b. That she is really in love with Benedick.
Ē	c. That she has a secret lover.
	d. That she is already married.
6. H	ow can Don John prove what he said is true?
	a. He has some love letters written by Hero.
Ē	b. That night, he and the Prince will hide outside Hero's window.
	c. He has some love poems written by Hero.
	d. He has some letters that Hero's lover wrote to her.
-	

'Since Hero is disloyal and would dishonour him, Claudio is going to disgrace her!'

Negative prefixes	Neg	al	tiv	e	p	re	fix	kes
-------------------	-----	----	-----	---	---	----	-----	-----

Non, un and dis are the most common negative prefixes in English.

Non generally means the absence of a quality.

For example, non-stop means without a stop or pause and nonsense means the lack of sense or logical meaning.

Un generally makes a word mean its opposite.

Dis also generally makes a word mean its opposite.

However, you should generally check in your dictionary for the exact meaning.

2 Choose one of the words from the box and one of the three prefixes (dis, un, non) to complete the sentences. Check in your dictionary.

loyal honour believe obedient aware like trust fiction

- a. I ...distrust Don John because he has always plotted against me.
- b. Beatrice tells Hero to be to her father if he tells her to marry an ugly man.
- c. If you want to find books about science, you have to look in thesection.
- d. At the beginning of the play Beatrice Benedick very much, but then she falls in love with him.
- e. When Hero went to get married in the church, she was totally that Claudio was suspicious of her.
- f. In my opinion, Claudio and Don Pedro should have Don John when he told them that Hero had a secret lover.
- g. Claudio believes that Hero has him by having a secret lover.
- h. What would you do if you discover that your boyfriend was to you and had a secret lover?

Summing it all up

- Below is a summary of Chapters 3-6, but four paragraphs (a, b, c and d) have been left out. Put them in the right place in the summary.
 - a. Unfortunately, Don Pedro was not the only one with a secret plan. Don John also had one, but his was meant to destroy Claudio's happiness. Don John was going to tell Claudio and Don Pedro that Hero had a secret lover, and that they should come that evening outside Hero's window and they would see Hero with her lover. The trick was that it would not be Hero, but Hero's lady-in-waiting Margaret dressed as Hero.
 - b. Benedick was very impressed by what he heard, and began to look at Beatrice differently. He began to admit that she was, after all, a very beautiful and honourable young woman. When Beatrice came to call him to come join the others, Benedick, for the first time, was polite to her. Beatrice, though, was still as rude as ever. Still, Benedick thought he could see in her words that she loved him.
 - c. So far then, Don Pedro's plan was a great success. In fact, Benedick began to act quite differently. He started to take special care with his dress and hair; and, what was more incredible, he no longer made jokes all the time. Of course, his friend Claudio noticed all this and made fun of him. Claudio's diagnosis was simple: Benedick was a man in love.
 - d. At first, Claudio was extremely upset because he thought that Don Pedro had tricked him. However, Don Pedro also went to Leonato, Hero's father, and arranged the marriage between Hero and Claudio. Claudio was then happy and could hardly wait to be married. The only problem now was that Benedick, Claudio's best friend, was depressed: Beatrice had told him that everyone thought that he was a fool. Beatrice also felt a little sad since her cousin was getting married and she wasn't.

Since Claudio was not brave enough to declare his love to Hero, Don Pedro volunteered to help him. At Leonato's masked party, Don Pedro pretended to be Claudio and spoke to Hero. He told her that he loved her. Unfortunately, Don John saw Don Pedro and Hero together. He then went to Claudio and told him that Don Pedro had stolen Hero from him.

Don Pedro, though, had a solution to all these problems: he had a plan to make Beatrice and Benedick fall in love with each other, and, at the same time, Claudio would enjoy himself the week before his wedding.

(2)

Before Don John carried out his plan, Don Pedro began his plan. He and Claudio walked in the garden near where Benedick was hiding. They knew that Benedick was there, but Benedick thought that they couldn't see him. So, Claudio and Don Pedro began to talk about how Beatrice was really in love with Benedick but that she was too afraid to admit it to him. She thought that he would make fun of her.

3

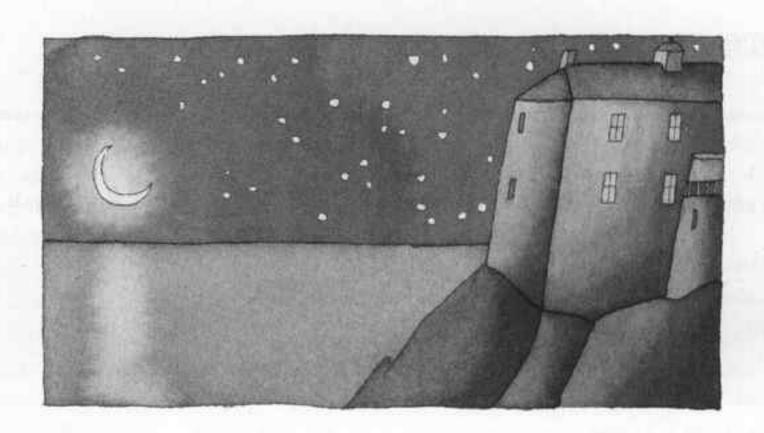
Then it was Beatrice's turn to be tricked. This time Hero and Ursula, a lady-in-waiting, talked about Beatrice as if Beatrice was not there. They said that Benedick was in love with Beatrice, but that he was afraid that she would laugh at him. Then they said that Beatrice was so proud that she probably couldn't love anyone. This last sentence really struck Beatrice. She too began to see Benedick differently and began to think that maybe she should love him.

4

Now, it seemed that maybe there would be a double wedding: Hero and Claudio, and Beatrice and Benedick. But Don John was just beginning his plot. He came in person to Claudio and told him that he had terrible news: Hero had a secret lover! He told Claudio and Don Pedro to come that night under her window and they could see for themselves. Claudio reacted very badly to this information. He said that he would disgrace Hero in the church on her wedding day if what Don John had said was true.

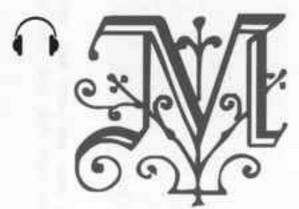
Before you read

Transform the words given to complete the gaps. Then lis	ten and check.
Most of the people who o were staying at	BE
Leonato's house went to bed early that night.	
They were all going to Claudio and Hero's	
1 the next morning and they wanted to rest.	WED
Leonato's house was 2 by the local constables.	PROTECT
Dogberry was in charge of them, and his second in	
command was Verges. They had decided to employ extra	
men because of the 3 of the Prince in the	PRESENT
house, and the important wedding.	
Dogberry was not a very intelligent man, but he was	
honest, and he took his duties very 4	SERIOUS
He looked at the new recruits 5	CARE
'Right,' he 6 'you must all listen to me.	ANNOUNCE
I'll tell you what you have to do. You walk around the	
gardens at night, and if you see 7 strange, you stop them. Is that clear?'	ONE
'What do we do if the person 8 obey us?'	DO
one of the new constables asked.	
'If that happens, don't do anything,' Dogberry told the man. 'If someone doesn't obey you, let him go.	
That kind of person can be 9, you know!'	DANGER
'Another thing,' Dogberry went on. 'Don't make a noise as you walk about. We don't want to disturb people.	
Don't wake people up by 10 loudly.'	TALK



CHAPTER + SEVEN

The Constables do their Duty



ost of the people who were staying at Leonato's house went to bed early that night. They were all going to Claudio and Hero's wedding the next morning and they wanted to rest.

Leonato's house was protected at night by the local constables. Dogberry was in charge of them, and his second in command was Verges. They had decided to employ extra men because of the presence of the Prince in the house, and the important wedding.

Dogberry was not a very intelligent man, but he was honest, and he took his duties very seriously. He looked at the new recruits 2 carefully.



- 1. second in command:副司令官或副指挥官。
- 2. recruits:新成员。

The Constables do their Duty

'Right,' he announced, 'you must all listen to me. I'll tell you what you have to do. You walk around the gardens at night, and if you see anyone strange, you stop them. Is that clear?'

'What do we do if the person doesn't obey us?' one of the new constables asked.

'If that happens, don't do anything,' Dogberry told the man. 'If someone doesn't obey you, let him go. That kind of person can be dangerous, you know!'

'Another thing,' Dogberry went on. 'Don't make a noise as you walk about. We don't want to disturb people. Don't wake people up by talking loudly.'

'I'd rather sleep than talk,' one of the new constables joked.

'Well said!' Dogberry told the man. 'You can't make any mistakes if you go to sleep. But remember,' he continued, 'you have to go to all the alehouses. ¹ Tell the people who have drunk too much that they should go home to bed.'

'What if they don't obey us?' someone asked again.

'Leave them alone if they don't obey you,' Dogberry advised. 'You don't want to get into arguments with people who have been drinking. And the same for thieves,' he told them. 'If you meet any thieves, stay away from them. No good can come from mixing with thieves.'

Dogberry and Verges left the new constables outside Leonato's house. They sat quietly and began talking about their new job.

'It'll be easy,' one of them said happily. 'We'll just sit quietly here for a couple of hours, and then we'll all go home to bed.'

Borachio and Conrad were also outside Leonato's house. They were talking excitedly to each other.

'I've just earned a thousand ducats!' Borachio boasted.

One of the new constables heard Borachio's voice. He made a sign to the others to be quiet. END

^{1.} alehouses:酒馆。

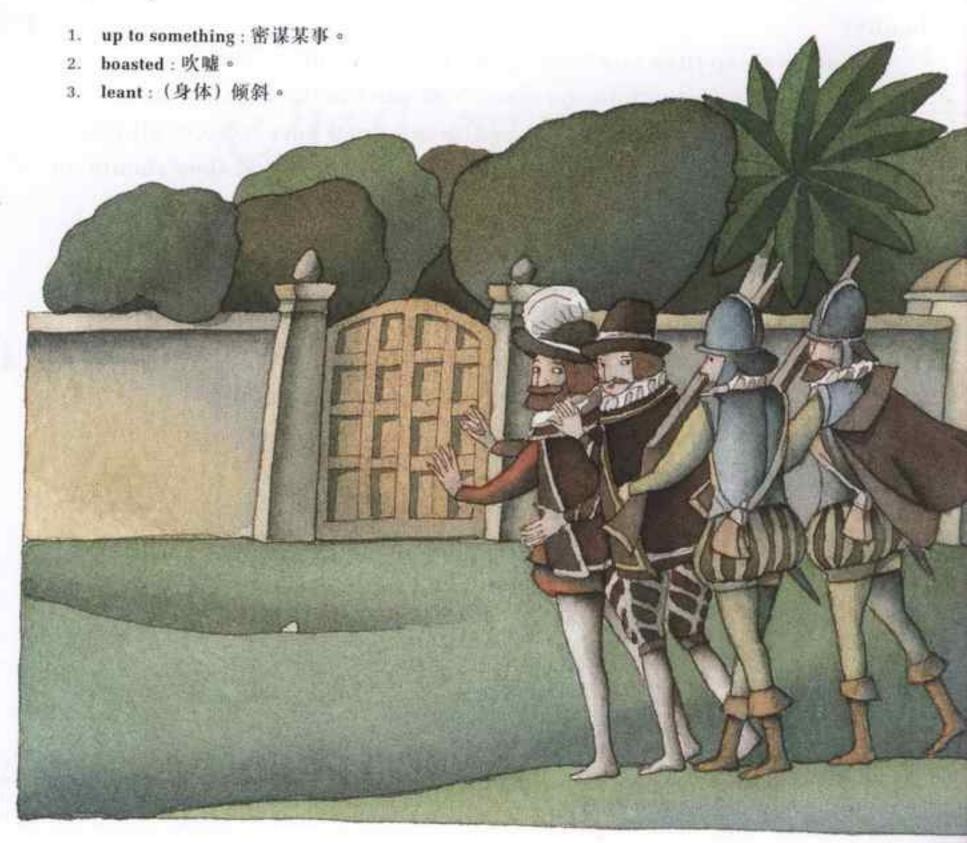


'Something's going on,' he warned them. 'I know that man, and I don't trust him. He must be up to something! ¹ Let's listen, and see what happens.'

The constables sat very quietly and listened.

'A thousand crowns!' Conrad said. 'How did you earn such a lot of money?'

'It was easy,' Borachio boasted 2 again. 'I spent the evening with Hero's lady-in-waiting, Margaret,' he explained with a laugh. 'She's just leant 3 out of Hero's window to say goodnight to me. Claudio and the Prince saw everything!'



The Constables do their Duty

'They thought Margaret was Hero?' Conrad asked. Borachio laughed again.

'That's right. Claudio is furious with Hero – he'll never marry her now!'
The constables had heard enough. They decided to arrest Borachio and Conrad. They did not understand what the two men were doing, but they were suspicious. Suddenly they moved forward.

'You're under arrest!' one of them said loudly. 'You must come with us.'
Borachio and Conrad looked at the constables in surprise. They did not
know what to do.

'Come on,' the constables said again, 'you two are coming with us. Dogberry will want to talk to you.'



Dogberry and Verges arrived at Leonato's house very early the next morning. They were both excited and very pleased with themselves. They asked to speak to Leonato.

Leonato smiled at the two men.

He was in a very good mood

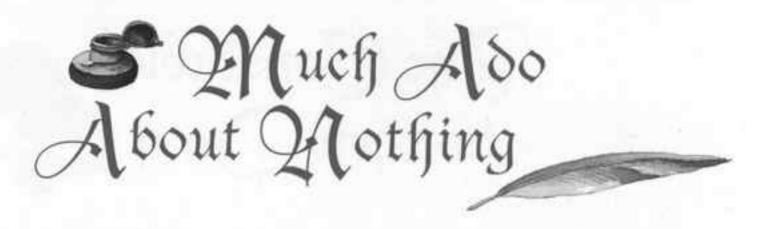
because of the wedding of Hero

and Claudio.

'Well, my friends,' he said politely, 'what can I do for you? As you can imagine, this is a very busy day for me.'

'I'll tell you, sir,' Dogberry began.

'That's right,' Verges said hurriedly.



'Please forgive my colleague, sir,' Dogberry said to Leonato. 'He is an old man, and he is a little confused in his thoughts. But he is a very honest man, all the same.'

'Very true, that's very true,' Verges agreed. 'I am an old man - but I'm an honest old man. Very true, very true - you expressed that very well!' he complimented ¹ Dogberry.

Leonato was a little impatient now.

'If you have something to tell me, please say it!' he ordered.

'The constables have arrested two thieves,' Verges said.

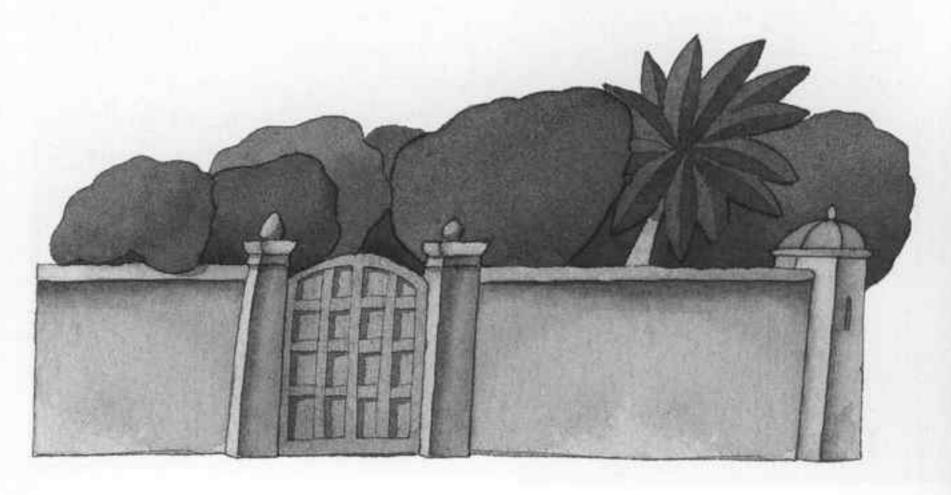
'Correct,' Dogberry confirmed. 'The constables have arrested two thieves – and we would like to question ² them in front of you, sir. That's why we're here, sir.'

'Question these men yourselves,' Leonato said. 'I'm too busy today. Question them, and come and tell me what you've learned from them later.'

'Yes, sir,' Dogberry said eagerly. 'We'll question them for you. We'll find out everything, I can promise you that.'

1. complimented: 恭维。

2. question:查问。



Go back to the text

1	Answer	the	following	questions.
---	--------	-----	-----------	------------

a.	Who is in charge of the local constables?
b.	What was he like?
c.	Why were there extra constables?
d.	Dogberry gives some strange commands. Find some examples, and say what i strange about them.
e.	How did Borachio earn a thousand ducats?
f.	What does Dogberry request of Leonato?
g.	Does Leonato consent? Why or why not?

'He must be up to something!'

Phrasal Verbs

Go on

a. Go on – start to function.

The lights have just gone on.

- b. Go on (followed by a gerund) continue an activity without a break. She went on working. She didn't stop for lunch.
- c. Go on (generally used in continuous tenses) to take place, to happen. What is going on?

Be up to

a. Be up to (followed by a gerund) – to be physically or mentally fit enough to do something.

Are you up to doing the exam?

 b. Be up to (can be used alone or it can be followed by words like something, no good, mischief) – to be doing something wrong.

What is that man up to?

c. Be up to you (can be followed by an infinitive with to) – to be your responsibility.

It's up to you to do the shopping.

2	A.	The phrasal verbs go on and be up to are each used once in this chapter.
		Find them and then decide which of the meanings is correct for them here.

a.	Go on	
b.	Be up to	

B. Now complete the gaps in the following sentences with either go on or be up to to make logical affirmative or negative sentences.

Put the phrasal verbs in either the Present Simple, Present Continuous or Past Simple according to the context. The verbs in brackets have to be written either as an infinitive with 'to' or as a gerund.

Example: Benedick is sick with love. He ..ian't.up.to.telling.... (tell) jokes.

a.	I hear somebody	velling outside.	What		out	there's	?
----	-----------------	------------------	------	--	-----	---------	---

- b. It you (decide) if you want to marry her or not.
- c. When I learned that Hero was dead, I (cry) for hours and hours.
- d. I saw Don John talking quietly to his friends. I am certain that he something.
- e. I turned the switch but the light, so we used candles.
- f. Claudio is your friend. Are you sure that you (fight) him?

Who was she?

3 Use the clues to do this puzzle and find the name of a famous English writer, whose prose versions of Shakespeare's comedies became classics in their own right.

This is a prose version of *Much Ado About Nothing* especially written for students of the English language, but it is not the first prose version of this play. In fact, a brother (1775-1834) and a sister (1764-1847) prepared prose versions of Shakespeare's comedies and tragedies to introduce young readers of their day to the fabulous ¹ world of Shakespeare (the sister prepared the comedies and the brother the tragedies).

They tried to use, when possible, only those words which Shakespeare himself would have used and not to use any words that had been introduced into the language after his death.

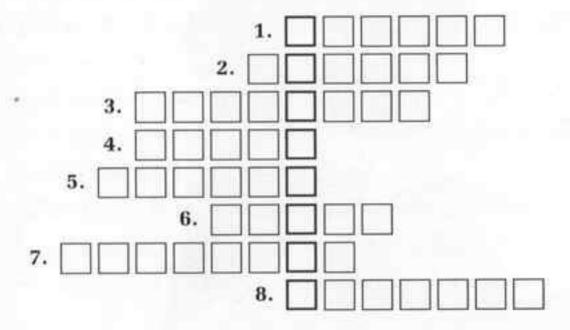
^{1.} fabulous: 奇妙的。

They tried to stress the virtuous ¹ aspects of Shakespeare's plays. Their collection, later known as *Tales from Shakespeare*, was written particularly for young girls (little boys were generally allowed access to their father's library much earlier than little girls). Great care was always taken to protect the virtue of little upper-class girls.

And yet the story of this brother and sister is tragic: on 22 September 1796 the sister, during a temporary attack of insanity, ² killed her mother with a kitchen knife. She would have spent the rest of life in an asylum for the insane, if her brother had not agreed to become her legal guardian. They spent the rest of their lives together.

Her brother became a famous writer, first for his essays on Elizabethan dramatists and then for his pleasant conversational essays in the London Magazine under the pen-name 'Elia'.

- 1. If you to do something, you are able to do it, even though it is quite difficult.
- 2. My brother is quite lazy. He ever works.
- 3. When you think about it, it is really terrible how Claudio decided to Hero in church.
- 4. Beatrice and Benedick are both very, especially when they are insulting each other.
- 5. If it is raining tomorrow, we will have to the football match.
- 7. The opposite of ugly, used for men.
- 8. He because he was so embarrassed.



1. virtuous:道德高尚的。

2. insanity:精神错乱。

Before you read

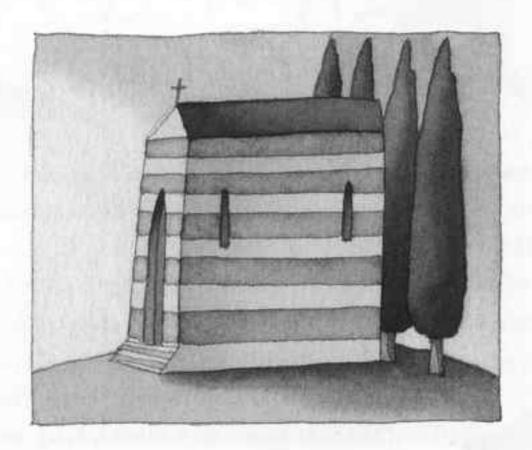
Listen to the first part of Chapter Eight and indicate who says the following sentences: Beatrice, Don John, Leonato, Hero, Don Pedro.

Then read the chapter and say why they say them.

d. 'Of co	ho will marry Hero, friar!' urse he doesn't!' s you give her back to him!' give your friend a rotten gift.'	***************************************
b. 'Of co c. 'Unles d. 'Don't 	urse he doesn't!' ss you give her back to him!' give your friend a rotten gift.'	***************************************
d. 'Don't	s you give her back to him!' give your friend a rotten gift.'	***************************************
c. 'Unlesd. 'Don'te. 'Are y	give your friend a rotten gift.'	
d. 'Don't e. 'Are y	give your friend a rotten gift.'	***************************************
e. 'Are y		***************************************
e. 'Are y		
	n't speak to any man last night.'	***************************************
g. 'I'm so	orry for your wickedness.'	***************************************
h. 'This i	s no place for us.'	

i. 'Help	her!"	

82



CHAPTER + EIGHT

A Wedding Ecandal

Il of Leonato's guests went to the church to see the wedding of Claudio and Hero. There was a lot of happy conversation as they waited for the priest to begin the service.

'Let's have a quick ceremony, Friar Francis,' Leonato advised.

The friar nodded 1 his head, and then he began the ceremony. First he turned to Claudio.

'Have you come here to marry Hero?' he asked.

The young man looked at the friar for a second before he answered. Then he said loudly, 'No, I have not.'

For a moment Leonato was astonished. Then he smiled.

'Quite right, quite right,' he said. 'Claudio has come here to be married to Hero – it's you who will marry Hero, friar!'

^{1.} nodded:点头。



The friar turned to Hero.

'Have you come here to be married to Claudio?' he asked her.

'Yes, I have,' Hero replied.

The friar looked seriously at Hero and Claudio for a moment.

'Do either of you know anything that makes you think this marriage should not take place?' he asked.

Claudio looked at Hero fiercely.

'Do you know any reason why we should not marry?' he asked her.

'No, I don't,' Hero told him.

'And you, Claudio, do you know any reason?'
the friar asked.

'Of course he doesn't!' Leonato interrupted.

Claudio now turned to Leonato.

'Are you happy to give me your daughter?' he asked.

'Yes, I am,' Leonato replied.

'Must I give you something in exchange for this precious gift?' Claudio asked.

'Of course not,' Leonato said.

'Unless you give her

back to him!' interrupted Don

Pedro.

Claudio now

raised his voice.

'Leonato, take your daughter back again,' he began. 'Don't give your friend a rotten ¹ gift. Your daughter looks lovely, I admit, but she's dishonourable. I don't want her!'



1. rotten:糟糕的。



There was a shocked silence in the church. Everyone was listening to the conversation between Claudio and Leonato.

'Speak honestly,' Leonato ordered Claudio. 'What are you trying to tell me?'

'I will never marry Hero,' Claudio replied loudly. 'She is disloyal.'

Hero blushed. She could not believe what Claudio was saying about her.

'Are you well?' she asked him faintly.

Leonato spoke to the Prince. He hoped that Don Pedro would be able to help him.

'Say something, sir,' he suggested.

'What can I say?' the Prince replied very seriously. 'I am ashamed that I encouraged Claudio to marry Hero. She is not worthy of him.' ¹

Leonato was astonished.

'I can't believe that this is happening,' he said. 'Tell me it's all a bad dream!'

'I want to ask your daughter one question,' Claudio told Leonato. 'Tell her to answer it truthfully, please.'

'I order you to answer his question truthfully,' Leonato told Hero. 'You must tell the truth.'

Claudio studied Hero's face for a moment before he spoke.

'You were speaking to a man from your window last night,' he told her. 'Who was that man?'

'I didn't speak to any man last night,' Hero answered him.

'You're lying!' Don Pedro told her angrily. 'We were outside your window last night, Claudio and I. We saw you talking to a man, Hero!' He turned to Leonato. 'It's all true, my old friend, I swear 2 it,' he said sadly. 'Your daughter has a lover.'

Don John now stepped forward. He was very pleased at the effect of his plan.

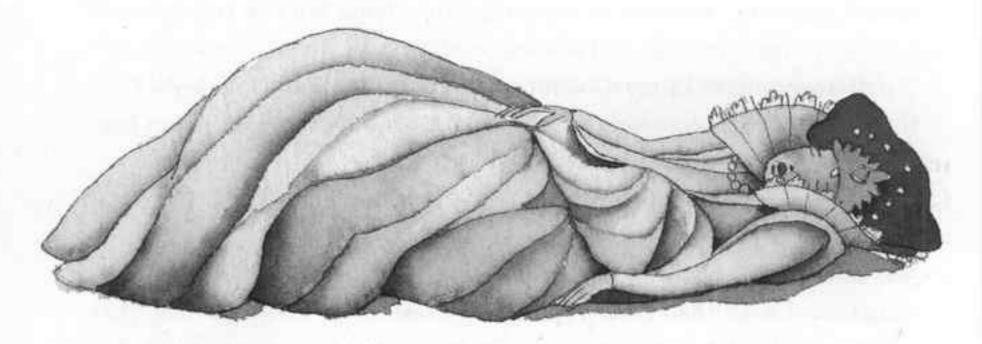


^{1.} is not worthy of him:配不上他。

^{2.} swear:发誓。



'It's no good,' he said to Hero. 'We know what kind of girl you are. I'm sorry for your wickedness!' he added.



Suddenly Hero went very pale. She began to tremble, ¹ and then she fell to the floor of the church. She lay on the floor without moving.

Don John looked down at her where she lay on the floor.

'Come on,' he said to the Prince and Claudio. 'This is no place for us.' He led them out of the church.

Benedick and Beatrice ran forward to help Hero.

'Help her!' Beatrice cried. 'Help her, uncle!'

'She'll be all right in a minute,' Friar Francis said gently. 'She's only fainted.'

'All right?' Leonato said angrily. 'I hope she dies, friar! Hero has brought dishonour on our family. I hope she dies,' he repeated angrily.

Friar Francis held up his hand.

'Listen to me,' he said to Leonato. 'I have been watching Hero very carefully. I believe that she is innocent. You can call me a fool if you like,' he went on, 'but I believe there has been a mistake.'

'No, friar,' Leonato said sadly. 'It's impossible, I'm afraid. You heard what Claudio and the Prince said. They both saw her talking to a man from her window – the evidence is clear!'



1. tremble:颤抖。



Hero now opened her eyes. She looked up at the crowd of people standing around her. The friar spoke to her gently.

'Were you speaking to a man last night?' he asked her kindly.

'No, friar,' Hero replied. 'I swear it, I'm telling the truth, friar.'

'I believe her,' Friar Francis said again. 'There has been a mistake.'

'Claudio and Don Pedro are both honest men,' Benedick said thoughtfully. 'They would never invent a story like this. But Don John,' he went on, 'he might have done it! Don John hates the Prince.'

'I will never forgive Hero if she is lying,' Leonato said, 'but I will defend her if someone is lying about her. I may be an old man,' he announced proudly, 'but I can still fight to protect my family!'

'I have an idea,' the friar said quietly. 'Claudio and the others think that Hero is dead. Let's pretend that she really is dead for a while. You, Leonato, prepare a lavish 1 funeral for her.'

'I don't understand, friar,' Leonato said. 'What's the point of pretending that Hero is dead?'

'When people hear that Hero is dead,' the friar explained, 'they will feel sorry for her. Claudio will remember that Hero died as a result of his accusation. He will wonder whether he was right about her. That will be one good result.'

Benedick liked the friar's suggestion.

'Claudio is my best friend,' he said, 'but I like this plan of yours, friar.
I'll do everything I can to help you.'

'Very well,' Leonato agreed. 'We will pretend that Hero is dead.'

Friar Francis and Leonato left the church secretly with Hero. Benedick and Beatrice were alone together. Benedick looked tenderly at Beatrice.

'Have you been crying all this time?' he asked her gently.

'Yes, and I think I'm going to go on crying for a while,' Beatrice replied.

'I think Hero is innocent,' Benedick told her.





'I wish someone could prove that she's innocent,' Beatrice said.

'I have something strange to tell you,' Benedick began softly. 'I don't know how this has happened, but I love you, Beatrice.'

'How strange,' Beatrice replied. 'I feel the same. I don't know how it's happened, but I think I love you, too.'

'I'd do anything for you!' Benedick told her eagerly.

'Kill Claudio, then!' Beatrice answered.

'Kill Claudio? Never!' Benedick replied in surprise.

'Then you don't really love me,' Beatrice said sadly. 'You won't fight my enemy.'

'Why is Claudio your enemy?' Benedick asked.

'Claudio has behaved very badly,' Beatrice said angrily. 'He didn't cancel the wedding when he heard this story about Hero. No, he came to the church, and then he accused her in public – I hate him for what he has done to Hero!'

'Listen, Beatrice...' Benedick interrupted her.

'She would never talk to a man from her window,' Beatrice continued angrily. 'She loves Claudio, I know she does!'

'Do you really think that Claudio has behaved badly?' Benedick asked. 'Of course I do!'

'Then I'll fight him!' Benedick announced. 'I love you, Beatrice - I'll fight Claudio for you,' he promised.

Go back to the text

	Ar	nswer the following questions.
	a.	Why does the Prince feel ashamed?
1	b.	Why is Don Pedro so sure that Hero has a lover?
	c.	How does Hero react to the accusation that she has a lover?
	d.	Why is Leonato also convinced of his own daughter's guilt?
	e.	Who thinks that Hero is innocent?
	f.	What is Friar Francis's plan?
	g.	What does Beatrice want Benedick to do to prove his love for her?
	h.	Does Benedick say he will do it?

'Have you been crying all this time?'

Present Perfect Continuous

The Present Perfect Continuous tense (have + been + present participle) has two main uses in English.

The first use is to express the duration of an action that has not yet finished or has just finished.

I have been running for two hours.

She has been crying all this time.

He has been living here for six months.

The second use is to describe an action that has just finished. Often we can see evidence of the action.

You look tired. What have you been doing?

I have been typing letters all morning.

If we wish to talk about the result of the action, we use the Present Perfect.

How many letters have you typed?

I've typed about twenty. (result, the number of letters produced)

You smell of onions. Have you been cooking?

Yes, I have been cooking.

I have cooked dinner for thirty people. (result, a dinner for thirty people)

Your hands are covered in oil. What have you been doing?

I have been repairing your bike.

I have repaired your bike. (result, you can now ride it)

2	Put the	verbs in	n brackets	into	the	Present	Perfect	or	Present	Perfect	Continuous
	accordi	ng to the	context.								

Example: Benedick's hands are stained with ink. (He/write love poems).

	He's been writing love poems
a.	(I/write some poems for you). There they are on the table.
b.	(John/read Much Ado About Nothing and The Tempest). He is not finished, but he is very tired.
c.	(John/read Much Ado About Nothing and The Tempest). He's now ready to take the English literature examination.
d.	(The constables/interrogating Borachio for an hour).
e.	Look at the smile on Don Pedro's face! (Balthazar/sing Don Pedro's favourite song).
f.	(Benedick/be in Messina for a week already).
g.	(Beatrice and Benedick/arguing again). Look how red in the face they are!
h.	(I/sit by Hero's tomb since last night).
i.	(The cook/bake cakes). That's why there is flour all over the floor.
j.	(The cook/bake some cakes). Would you like one?

Benedick is now very confused and very happy and very different! He had always said that he would never fall in love, but now everything has changed.

Imagine that you are Benedick and write a letter to your friend Ferdinand in Padua to explain the changes in your life.

In your letter you wish to answer the following questions.

- 1. Who is Beatrice and how has she changed your life?
- 2. Who is Claudio and how has Hero changed his life?

You should begin your letter like this. Write between 120 and 180 words.

Dear Ferdinand,			
Everybody is goin	there has been many crazy, including	g mel Do you ren	nember how I

	Your loyal Bened		

Women in Shakespeare's Comedies

The theatre in Shakespeare's day was treated with great suspicion by the authorities. Plays were regarded as an immoral form of entertainment, and the authorities made sure that theatres were built far away from city centres. The morality of the time made it difficult for dramatists to create convincing parts for female characters. There were two main reasons for this. Firstly, there was a convention 1 that women could not appear on stage, so boys or men had to perform female roles. Secondly, audiences expected the action to focus on male heroes or villains.

In his comedies Shakespeare plays with these stage conventions with great success. In As You Like It, for example, a female character (played by a male actor) pretends to be a boy in love with another female character (played by a male actor). A similarly complicated situation occurs in Twelfth Night. The twins Sebastian and Viola are separated after a shipwreck. Viola (played by a male actor) disguises herself as a boy,

and finds work as a servant to Duke Orsino. Viola falls in love with the

duke, but cannot declare her love because she is supposed to be a boy.

The duke is in love with Olivia, but she falls in love with Viola,

whom she believes to be a boy. The situation is complicated

even further when Sebastian arrives on the scene.

Shakespeare also uses his genius to portray strong,

independent and intelligent women. Much of the interest in

The Taming of the Shrew, for example, derives from the

intensity and wit of Katharine's conversations with

Petruchio. The same is true in Much Ado About Nothing,

and the jokes and insults between Benedick and Beatrice.

One recurrent 2 theme in the comedies is the conflict between men and women, and the resolution of this conflict through love and

marriage. In The Taming of the Shrew, for example, Katharine's

Ellen Terry as Beatrice and Henry Irving as Benedick, 1882.

1. convention: 惯例。

recurrent: 重复出现的。



anger and aggression ¹ mean that she is rejected by the men of her society. It is the outsider, Petruchio, who proves himself even more aggressive than she is, and leads her to acknowledge ² the importance of love. In *A Midsummer Night's Dream* there is conflict between the King and Queen of the fairies, Oberon and Titania. As in *The*

Taming of the Shrew, harmony can only be restored when Titania submits to ³ her husband.

The theme of conflict between men and women is also present in *Much Ado About Nothing*. The play opens with the arrival of Don Pedro, Claudio and Benedick from a successful military campaign. As soon as they arrive Benedick and Beatrice continue their own private war – a conflict based on irony and insults. At the beginning of the play Benedick and Beatrice compete against each other, and seem to have a genuine dislike of each other. Their mutual ⁴ dislike is really based on mutual attraction. This is indicated very early in the play, before Don Pedro's plan is put into action. Benedick compares Beatrice and Hero. He says that Beatrice is more beautiful than Hero, in the same way that 'the first

David Garrick as Benedick, 1748.

1 Answer the following questions.

a. Why were theatres built outside the centre of London?

of May' is more beautiful than 'the last of December'.

- b. Who played the female parts in Shakespeare's plays?
- c. How did Shakespeare use the conventions regarding female actors to his advantage?
- 1. aggression:好斗性。
- 2. acknowledge:承认。
- 3. submits to: 順从。
- 4. mutual:互相的。

d.	What kind of female characters did Shakespeare create?
e.	How is the war between men and women resolved in Shakespeare's plays?
f.	What kind of 'war' do Benedick and Beatrice fight?
g.	What is the real source of the apparent dislike between Beatrice and Benedick?
ef	ore you read
Li	sten to the first part of Chapter Nine and then complete the sentences.
a.	Claudio does not wish to fight Leonato because Leonato
b.	Although he believes that Hero is dead, the Prince is still convinced that she was
c.	At first, Claudio is happy to see Benedick because he hopes that Benedick will
d.	Benedick comes to ask Claudiobut the Prince thinks that Benedick came to joke with his friend.
e.	Benedick will if Claudio refuses to fight him.
f.	Dogberry has discovered that Borachio and Conrad
g.	Borachio tells Don Pedro that Don John



Dogberry and his Men discover the Aruth



eonato was very angry and disturbed by what had happened in the church. His brother, Antonio, tried to calm him, but it was no good.

'Don't tell me to be calm!' the old man cried. 'I love Hero, and I can't bear the idea that she has been dishonoured. I

can't bear it, I tell you!' he shouted.

'Don't make yourself suffer,' Antonio advised him. 'Think of the people who accused her. It's only right that they should suffer, too.'

'You're right,' Leonato agreed. 'I'm sure that Hero is innocent. Claudio and the Prince have lied about her.'

Suddenly, the Prince and Claudio appeared. They were embarrassed to see Leonato and his brother after what had happened. They bowed awkwardly ¹ and began to walk away.

1. awkwardly: 尴尬地。

'Just a moment,' Leonato called after them. 'I want to speak to you. You have wronged my daughter.'

'Don't quarrel with us,' Don Pedro advised him.

'You, Claudio, you have behaved badly,' Leonato shouted. 'You lied about Hero, and now she's dead. I'm going to fight you, young man!'

'You're too old for fighting,' Claudio replied. 'I won't fight you, Leonato.'

Antonio stepped forward angrily.

'Then you'll fight me, young man,' he announced. 'I'm not too old for fighting. I loved my niece. You'll fight me, I say!' he repeated.

Now Leonato was worried. His brother did not know that Hero was still alive.

'I can't let him fight Claudio,' Leonato thought. 'I must stop him.'

'Brother...' he began.

'Leave me alone!' Antonio said roughly. 'I'm not scared of fighting him. I know what these young men are like!'

'But, Antonio.' Leonato said desperately.

'Leave me alone, I say!' Antonio said to Leonato. 'Let me deal with 1 this.'

'Don't quarrel, gentlemen,' the Prince said again. 'I am sorry that Hero's dead,' he told Leonato. 'But she was guilty, my friend. She was guilty.'

Leonato held onto his brother's arm.

'Come on,' he ordered him. 'We'll make them listen to us another time.' Leonato and Antonio walked away.

Don Pedro and Claudio stood talking together. They were glad that they had avoided a fight with Leonato and Antonio. Then they saw Benedick approaching.

'Just the man we want to see,' Claudio told him happily. 'We're both sad, Benedick. We need you to cheer us up a little.'



1. deal with:处理。

Dogberry and his Men discover the Fruth

Don Pedro looked closely at Benedick. He noticed that the young man was very pale.

'What's the matter?' he asked.

Benedick ignored the Prince, and spoke quietly to Claudio.

'I'm going to fight you,' he whispered fiercely. 'You choose the weapons, and you choose the time. But if you don't fight me, I'll tell everyone you're a coward!'

Don Pedro did not hear what Benedick said to Claudio. He thought the two young men were having a joke together. He decided to tease ¹ Benedick a little about Beatrice.

'It's really true that Beatrice loves you,' he said pleasantly. 'You'll be a married man soon, my friend – just as I told you!' he predicted with a laugh.

Benedick did not smile at the Prince's joke.

'My lord,' he said politely, 'you have always treated me well. I thank you for that. I will not serve you any longer. Your brother Don John has left Messina. The three of you have killed an innocent young child.'

Benedick walked away from Don Pedro and Claudio. He was very angry with them.

'He's serious,' Don Pedro said in surprise. He thought for a moment. 'My brother's left Messina – I wonder why!'

Just then Dogberry and some of his men came into sight. They had Borachio and Conrad with them.

'Isn't that Borachio and Conrad?' Don Pedro said to Claudio. 'I wonder why they're prisoners?' he called out to Dogberry. 'Stop! Tell me why these two men are prisoners. What have they done?'

Dogberry bowed to the Prince and Claudio.

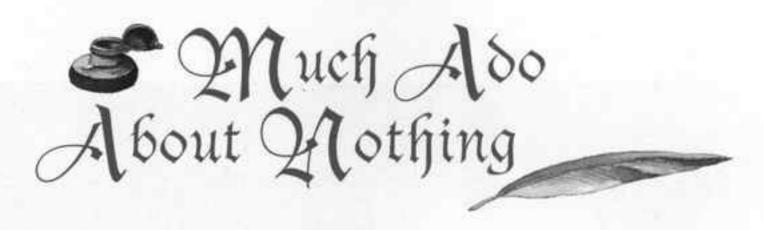
'These two men,' he told them, 'are liars. They have told lies about a lady here in Messina, and they are bad men.'

Don Pedro now spoke to Borachio.









'What have you done?' he asked.

Borachio looked ashamed.

'This constable here has found out the truth,' he said, pointing to Dogberry. 'He heard me telling Conrad about Don John's plan to deceive you and Claudio. It was your brother who invented the story about Hero. It was Margaret you saw in Hero's clothes talking to me. Hero was innocent. And now she's dead. I am very sorry, sir.'

'Poor Hero!' Claudio groaned. 'I should have believed in you.'
He began to weep. ¹

'Leonato knows everything by now,' Dogberry said to the Prince. 'We sent him a message as soon as we discovered the truth. But here he is,' he said, 'I see him coming now.'

'Where's the man who killed my daughter with his lies?' Leonato shouted loudly.

Borachio looked ashamed.

'It was me, sir,' he said humbly. 'I killed your daughter.'

'You didn't do it by yourself,' Leonato told him angrily. 'Don John, Don Pedro and Claudio are also responsible for her death.'

'You're right, Leonato,' Claudio said quietly. 'I was wrong, I treated Hero badly. You must punish me if you wish. But I made an honest mistake.'

'Me, too,' Don Pedro said sadly. 'I made an honest mistake, but you have suffered, Leonato. I wish I could do something to help you.'

'You can't bring my daughter back,' Leonato said sternly. 'But there is something you can both do for Hero. Tell the people of Messina that my daughter was innocent. And tonight, go to her grave and pray for her there. Write an epitaph ² for her tomb. Will you do that for Hero?'



1. weep:哭泣。

2. epitaph:悼词。

Dogberry and his Men discover the Fruth

Don Pedro and Claudio agreed to go to Hero's grave that night.

'And you, Claudio,' Leonato went on, 'there's something else you can do. My brother Antonio has a daughter. She's very like poor Hero. Marry my brother's daughter, just as you would have married mine. Will you do that?'

Claudio bowed his head.

'I'll marry your niece,' he said. 'It's the least I can do to make peace between us again.'

'Then come to my house tomorrow morning,' Leonato ordered. 'In the meanwhile, I want to speak to Margaret – I don't believe she knew anything about Don John's wicked plan.'

'She didn't, sir!' Borachio said. 'Margaret's a good girl – she knew nothing about it!'

Meanwhile Benedick had decided to write Beatrice a poem. He was not a good poet, however, and writing was difficult. The first line of the poem came easily:

'The god of love,'

'That's good,' he thought, 'very direct and very romantic. Now what shall I put?' He thought for a moment, and then he wrote:

'The god of love, That sits above.'

'This is easy!' he told himself. He thought again.

'The god of love,

That sits above,

and knows me, and knows me,

Dow much I deserve...'



Benedick threw the pen down onto the table in disgust. He could not think of anything else to say. He went for a walk in Leonato's garden. Here he met Beatrice, and the two lovers began talking.

'I've spoken to Claudio,' Benedick told her. 'He knows he has to fight me, or I will tell everybody that he's a coward. But tell me,' he asked, 'what made you fall in love with me?'

'All your bad qualities,' Beatrice joked. 'There are a lot of them, you know. And what about you,' she asked, 'what made you love me?'

'I never meant to love you,' Benedick told her simply. 'And how is Hero?' he asked seriously.

'She's very unhappy,' Beatrice told him.

Suddenly, they heard someone running towards them. It was Ursula, one of Hero's ladies-in-waiting. She called loudly to Beatrice.

'You must come quickly, Beatrice,' Ursula said. 'Everything's going to be all right. Hero's innocent – it was all a plot by Don John to hurt the Prince and Claudio. Come quickly!'

Benedick and Beatrice smiled at each other. This was good news indeed.

'Let's go and hear this news together,' Beatrice suggested.

'Let's,' agreed Benedick. He held out his hand, and Beatrice took it. They walked quickly towards the house.

Go back to the text

Indicate whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F), and then correct the false ones.

		T	F
a.	Leonato does not want Antonio to fight Claudio because Antonio does not know that Hero is still alive.		
b.	Leonato is not really convinced of Hero's innocence.		
c.	Benedick does not want to serve Don Pedro because Don Pedro is Don John's brother.		
d.	Dogberry knows that Borachio and Conrad were involved in a plan to destroy Hero's reputation.		
e.	Margaret also waits to ruin Hero's reputation.		
f.	Even after Borachio's confession, Don Pedro still feels responsible for Hero's death.		
g.	Claudio agrees to marry Hero's niece.		
h.	Benedick is a very good poet.		

'We'll make them listen to us another time.'

Make and let

Look at the sentences below.

All have the same structure, verb + object + infinitive (without to).

Make can mean either force or cause.

We made them listen to us. = We forced them to listen to us.

Wine makes me feel sleepy. = Wine causes me to feel sleepy.

Let means allow.

Leonato let Antonio deal with the problem. = Leonato allowed Antonio to deal with the problem.

Let can be used in a few common expressions with different meanings.

Let me know = Communicate to me that information.

Let me go = Release me.

Let me in = Open the door so I can come in.

Let me out = Open the door so I can get out.

2	Make logical	sentences	using	either	make	or	let.	Put	the	verb	in	the	tense	indicated
	in brackets.													

Ex	ample:	All of Benedick's bad qualities/Beatrice fall in love with him. (Past Simple) All of Benedick's bad qualities made Beatrice fall in love with him.
a.	Don Pe	edro and Claudio/Benedick think that Beatrice was in love with him. (Past
b.	(Past P	Benedick met Beatrice, he/not/any woman love him. erfect)
c.	Don Jo	hn's hatred of his brother/not/him live in peace. nt Simple)
d.	(Future	o/Claudio marry Hero. e going-to)
e.		can see in this play love/people do strange things. nt Simple)
f.		io/not/his brother fight Claudio. e going-to)
g.	111111111111111111111111111111111111111	ry/drunks go home. He never arrests them. nt Simple)
h.		o/not/Don John escape. imple)
i.		o/not/Claudio know that Hero is really alive. at Perfect)
1	- Marie	

And Keanu Reeves plays the part of Don John!

You want to get the video of Kenneth Branagh's film version of *Much Ado About Nothing*. Your friend, however, thinks that a film based on a play by Shakespeare will be really, really boring. Write a letter using the following information to convince your friend that she will really enjoy it. Write between 120 and 180 words.

The Critic's name	Their rating	What they said
James Berardinelli	5	For those who don't find Shakespeare's comedies funny, this is the film to see, because it's hilarious. I
Roger Egbert	5	Branagh is nothing if not a film director of high spirits and great energy.
Leonard Maltin	5	The film is rowdy, 2 high spirited and remarkably fast paced.

Some of the famous actors in the film, and the roles they play	Other films they have acted in
Kenneth Branagh, Benedick	Henry V
Emma Thompson, Beatrice	The Remains of the Day, In the Name of the Father
Denzel Washington, Don Pedro	Philadelphia, Malcolm X, A Soldier's Story
Keanu Reeves, Don John	Speed, Johnny Mnemonic
Michael Keaton, Dogberry	Beetle Juice, Batman

Other facts you might want to use to convince your friend.

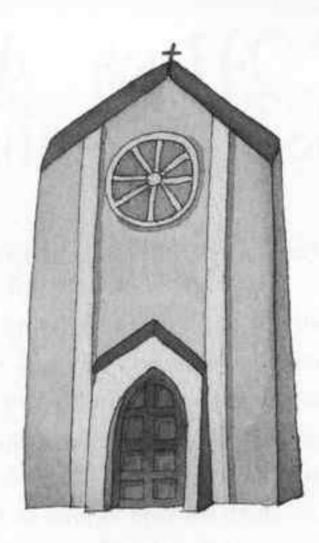
- Kenneth Branagh is also the director of the film. He also directed Henry V, which was a great success with the general public.
- Kenneth Branagh and Emma Thompson were married when the film was made, so their lovers' quarrels seem even more realistic and funny.
- This film was beautifully filmed in the splendid Tuscan countryside.
- Shakespeare was a popular entertainer, and certainly not a boring intellectual writer.
- 1. hilarious : 欢闹的。
- 2. rowdy: 闹哄哄的。

You can begin like this:

Dear		
l know you think film of Much Ado	that Shakespeare is boring. But I've go About Nothing because	t the
		<i></i>

Before you read

			***	303
10	Oon Pedro has composed an epitaph for Hero.		1	F
c	Oon Pedro and Claudio stay in the church next to omb all night.	o Hero's		
e	eonato still thinks that Don Pedro and Claudio f hurting his daughter.	are guilty		
l	laudio is going to marry Antonio's daughter.			
la c	Claudio is going to marry Antonio's daughter. Now, Benedick does not want to marry Beatrice. It first Claudio does not recognise Hero because rearing a mask.			



CHAPTER + TEN

Awo Weddings



hat night Claudio and Don Pedro went back to the church, as they had promised Leonato. Claudio had composed an epitaph for Hero. He read from the poem as he walked along:

Hero was killed by slanderous 1 tongues
And here she lies.

Death rewards her awful wrongs
By giving her fame that never dies.

The life that died with shame
Lives on in glorious fame.

Don Pedro and Claudio stayed near the tomb all night, praying and talking about Hero. They were both very sad. At last the inside of the church began to grow light – it was morning.

'Come on, Claudio,' Don Pedro said, 'it's time to go to Leonato's house.

1. slanderous:诽谤的。



Remember you are going to marry Antonio's daughter this morning - you promised you would.'

Claudio stood up. He was tired after the long night in the church.

'I'm ready,' he said quietly. 'I hope this wedding will be happier than the last one!' He looked sadly towards Hero's tomb as he spoke.

There was great excitement in Leonato's house that morning. The friar, in particular, was very happy.

'I told you Hero was innocent!' he kept saying to Leonato. 'Didn't I say she was innocent all the time?'

Leonato smiled at the friar.

'And Claudio and Don Pedro are innocent, as well,' he said. 'It was all Don John's fault — and the Prince will surely see that he is punished for what he did. Margaret was innocent as well,' he went on. 'It's true that Borachio was her lover — but she did not know anything about the wicked plot against Hero.'

'I'm glad that everything's worked out 1 well,' Antonio said.

'Me, too,' Benedick said. 'I thought I was going to have

to fight my best friend Claudio.'

'Now, Antonio,' Leonato said, 'you know what we're going to do when Claudio and Don Pedro arrive.

Claudio has promised to marry your daughter. We will pretend that Hero is your daughter. She will wear a heavy mask. Claudio will be marrying the girl he loves, but he won't know it – it'll be a great joke!' he cried with a happy laugh.

'I must say something, sir,' Benedick told Leonato. 'I'm in love with your niece, Beatrice, and she's in love with me – I want your permission to marry her.'



1. worked out:结果。



'Just as Don Pedro and Claudio predicted!' Leonato said with a smile. 'I give you my permission to marry Beatrice.'

'And I will perform the ceremony!' the friar offered excitedly.

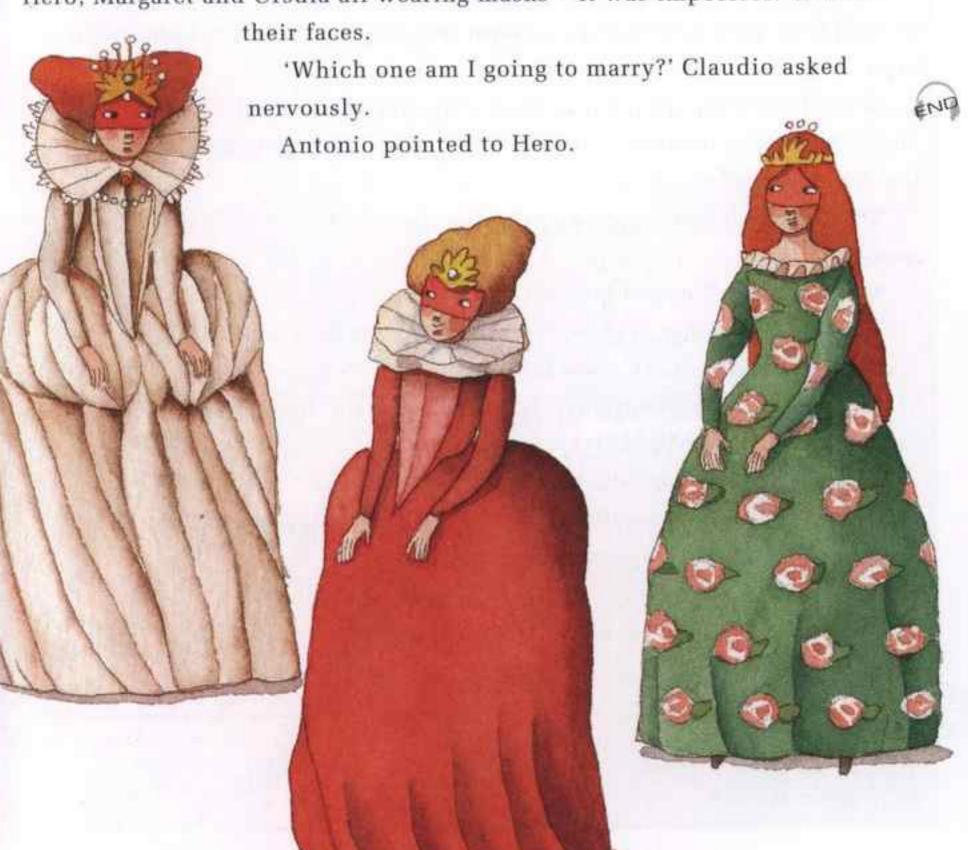
It was not long before Don Pedro and Claudio arrived at Leonato's house. They exchanged polite greetings with everyone.

'Well, Claudio,' Leonato said sternly, 'do you remember your promise? Are you ready to marry Antonio's daughter?'

'I'll keep my promise,' Claudio said seriously.

'Go and call her,' Leonato ordered Antonio.

Antonio came back into the room a few minutes later with Beatrice, Hero, Margaret and Ursula all wearing masks – it was impossible to see





Claudio stepped forward.

'We are going to be husband and wife,' he said gently. 'May I see your face before the wedding?'

'No!' Leonato cried. 'You may not see her face until the wedding is concluded.'

'Then take my hand,' Claudio said. 'I will lead you to the friar. I will be your husband if you wish it.'

He put out his hand. Hero put out her own hand, and grasped 1 his.

'I've been your wife before,' she said quietly. She removed her mask.

Claudio looked into her face. He gasped, and tears came into his eyes.

'Another Hero!' he whispered in astonishment.

'The first Hero died in shame,' Hero said quietly, 'and here I am, another one.'

'It really is Hero!' Don Pedro cried. 'She didn't die at all!'

Claudio stood in silence. He could not speak for happiness. The friar touched his arm.

'I'll explain everything,' he said softly. 'But first, let's have the wedding!'

Now Benedick stepped forward.

'One moment, Friar Francis,' he said softly. 'Which one is Beatrice?' Another girl in a mask came forward.

'I am,' she answered quietly. 'What do you want, Benedick?'

'Do you love me?' Benedick asked her.

'Beyond reason, 2 no,' she replied with a smile.

'Then Don Pedro, Claudio and Leonato were wrong,' Benedick said.

'They told me you loved me madly.' 3

'And you,' Beatrice asked. 'Do you love me, Benedick?'

'Beyond reason, no,' he answered with a smile.

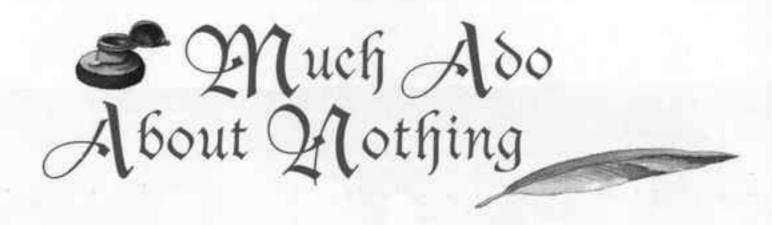


1. grasped:紧抓。

2. beyond reason: 不可理喻。

3. madly: 狂热地。





'Then Margaret, Ursula and Hero were wrong,' Beatrice told him. 'They said you loved me madly.'

'They told me you were sick for love of me,' Benedick said.

'They told me you were nearly dead for love of me,' Beatrice replied.

'Then you really don't love me?' Benedick asked her.

'Not really,' Beatrice admitted. 'I only love you because you love me.'

'This is all nonsense!' Claudio said loudly. 'Benedick loves Beatrice, I'm sure of it. Look, I've got a poem he wrote to her!' Claudio showed the others Benedick's poem.

Now Hero spoke as well.

'And Beatrice loves Benedick!' she said loudly. 'I've got a letter she wrote to him. Look, here it is!' She showed everyone Beatrice's letter to Benedick.

Benedick laughed.

'We do not love each other,' he joked, 'but it seems our hands are in love. Let's marry, all the same.'

Beatrice laughed as well.

'I'll marry you,' she joked, 'but only to save your life, Benedick – they said you were so unhappy without me!'

Go back to the text

CII	oose the best answers (a, b, c or d) for the following questions.
1.	Who had always believed that Hero was truly innocent?
	a. Don Pedro.
	b. Leonato.
	c. The friar.
	d. Claudio.
2.	Why was Benedick going to fight Claudio?
	a. Because Claudio had insulted Beatrice.
	b. Because Beatrice had insulted Claudio.
	c. Because Leonato would not let him marry Beatrice if he did not fight
	for his daughter's good reputation that had been ruined by Claudio.
	d. Because Beatrice told him to do it.
3.	What did Claudio promise Leonato that he would do?
	a. Marry Hero's cousin.
	b. Fight Benedick.
	c. Leave Messina immediately and never return.
	d. Fight Don John.
4.	Why didn't Claudio recognise Hero until after the wedding was concluded?
	a. Because she was facing the other way.
	b. Because her face had changed so much because of her great suffering.
	c. Because she was wearing a mask.
	d. Because Claudio's eyes were so full of tears he could not see well
5.	Why did Claudio show everybody the love poem that Benedick had
	written for Beatrice?
	 a. Because he wanted everybody to see that Benedick was a terrible poe
	b. Because he wanted to tease his friend.
	c. Because Benedick refused to admit that he was in love with Beatrice,
	and the poem was proof that he really did love her.
	d. Because Claudio was tired of hearing Benedick and Beatrice argu
	all the time, and he wanted them to admit that they loved each
	other.

- Below is a summary of Chapters 7-10, but four paragraphs (a, b, c and d) have been left out. Put them in the right place in the summary. Then complete the gaps in the passage with the correct words from the text.

That day the wedding took place. The friar began the service, but Claudio interrupted him. He told Leonato that his daughter was a 1......, and that he was sure that she was disloyal to him. Then both Claudio and Don Pedro swore that Hero had a secret lover. Then the man behind the 2.....,

Don John intervened. He told Hero that he was sorry for her 3....., but that she could not hide the facts. Hero started to 4...... and then she fell to the floor.

(2)

3

(4)

A lot of bother about love

- Find out how the word ado is used in modern English and then write a short composition to explain why you think Shakespeare gave the title Much Ado About Nothing to this play. Write between 120 and 180 words.
- As you have read, this comedy has a lot in common with the tragedy Romeo and Juliet. In Romeo and Juliet the tragic chain of events begins when a letter arrives late. How would you change Much Ado About Nothing to make it a tragedy? How would the story end? Write a composition of between 120 and 180 words.

Lines from Shakespeare

- 1 Read the extracts from Shakespeare's original play. For each dialogue explain briefly what is happening.
- 2 Find lines in the dialogues which mean:
 - a. Do not arrest any vagabond. Let him go and be thankful that a bad person has gone away.
 - b. I will marry you only because I feel sorry for you.
 - c. While she is writing on sheets of paper she imagines Benedick and herself between the sheets of a bed.
 - d. I will marry you because otherwise you will die of a terrible disease.
 - e. If you should some day fall in love you will be a very interesting subject of conversation.
 - f. On the outside she seems honourable because she is so lovely, but inside she is really a terrible person.

ACT ONE SCENE 1

a BEATRICE: Who is his companion now? He hath every month a new sworn brother.

MESSENGER: Is't possible?

BEATRICE: Very easily possible. He wears his faith but as the fashion of his hat, it ever changes with the next block.

MESSENGER: I see, lady, the gentleman is not in your books.

BEATRICE: No. An he were, I would burn my study.

^{1.} bother:麻烦。

ACT ONE SCENE 1

(b) DON PEDRO: I shall see thee, ere I die, look pale with love.

BENEDICK: With anger, with sickness, or with hunger, my lord; not with love. Prove that ever I lose more blood with love than I will get again with drinking, pick out mine eyes with a ballad-maker's pen and hang me up at the door of a brothel house for the sign of blind Cupid.

DON PEDRO: Well, if ever thou dost fall from this faith, thou wilt prove a notable argument.

ACT TWO SCENE 1

BEATRICE: Lord, I could not endure a husband with a beard on his face.

I had rather lie in the woollen.

LEONATO: You may light on a husband that hath no beard.

BEATRICE: What should I do with him — dress him in my apparel and make him my waiting-gentlewoman? He that hath a beard is more than a youth, and he that hath no beard is less than a man; and he that is more than a youth is not for me; and he that is less than a man, I am not for him.

ACT TWO SCENE 3

d DON PEDRO: Hath she made her affection known to Benedick?

LEONATO: No, and swears she never will. That's her torment.

CLAUDIO: 'Tis true, indeed, so your daughter says. 'Shall I,' says she, 'that have so oft encountered him with scorn, write to him that I love him?'

LEONATO: This says she now when she is beginning to write to him, for she'll be up twenty times a night, and there will she sit in her smock till she have writ a sheet of paper. My daughter tells us all.

CLAUDIO: Now you talk of a sheet of paper, I remember a pretty jest your daughter told us of.

LEONATO: O, when she had writ it and was reading it over, she found Benedick and Beatrice between the sheet?

CLAUDIO: That.

ACT TWO SCENE 3

BENEDICK: They say the lady is fair. 'Tis a truth, I can bear them witness.

And virtuous – 'tis so, I cannot reprove it. And wise, but for loving me.

By my troth, it is no addition to her wit – nor no great argument of her folly, for I will be horribly in love with her.

ACT THREE SCENE 3

f DOGBERRY: This is your charge: you shall comprehend all vagrom men.
You are to bid any man stand, in the Prince's name.

WATCHMAN: How if a will not stand?

DOGBERRY: Why then take no note of him, but let him go, and presently call the rest of the watch together, and thank God you are rid of a knave.

VERGES: If he will not stand when he is bidden, he is none of the Prince's subjects.

DOGBERRY: True, and they are to meddle with none but the Prince's subjects. You shall also make no noise in the streets, for the watch to babble and to talk is most tolerable and not to be endured.

SECOND WATCHMAN: We will rather sleep than talk. We know what belongs to a watch.

ACT FOUR SCENE 1

g FRIAR: If either of you know any inward impediment why you should not be conjoined, I charge you on your souls to utter it.

CLAUDIO: Know you any, Hero?

HERO: None, my lord.

FRIAR: Know you any, Count?

LEONATO: I dare make his answer - none.

CLAUDIO: O, what men dare do! What men may do! What men daily do, not knowing what they do!

BENEDICK: How now! Interjections? Why then, some be of laughing, as 'ah! ha! he!'

CLAUDIO: Stand thee by, friar. Father, by your leave, will you with free and unconstrained soul give me this maid, your daughter?

LEONATO: As freely, son, as God did give her me.

CLAUDIO: And what have I to give you back whose worth may counterpoise this rich and precious gift?

DON PEDRO: Nothing, unless you render her again.

CLAUDIO: Sweet prince, you learn me noble thankfulness.

There, Leonato, take her back again.

Give not this rotten orange to your friend.

She's but the sign and semblance of her honour.

ACT FIVE SCENE 4

(h BENEDICK: Do not you love me?

BEATRICE: Why no, no more than reason.

BENEDICK: Why then, your uncle and the prince and Claudio

have been deceived. They swore you did.

BEATRICE: Do not you love me?

BENEDICK: Troth no, no more than reason.

BEATRICE: Why then, my cousin, Margaret, and Ursula are much deceived, for they did swear you did.

BENEDICK: They swore that you were almost sick for me.

BEATRICE: They swore that you were well nigh dead for me.

BENEDICK: 'Tis no such matter. Then you do not love me?

BEATRICE: No, truly, but in friendly recompense.

LEONATO: Come, cousin, I am sure you love the gentleman.

CLAUDIO: And I'll be sworn upon't that he loves her,

For here's a paper written in his hand,

A halting sonnet of his own pure brain,

Fashioned to Beatrice.

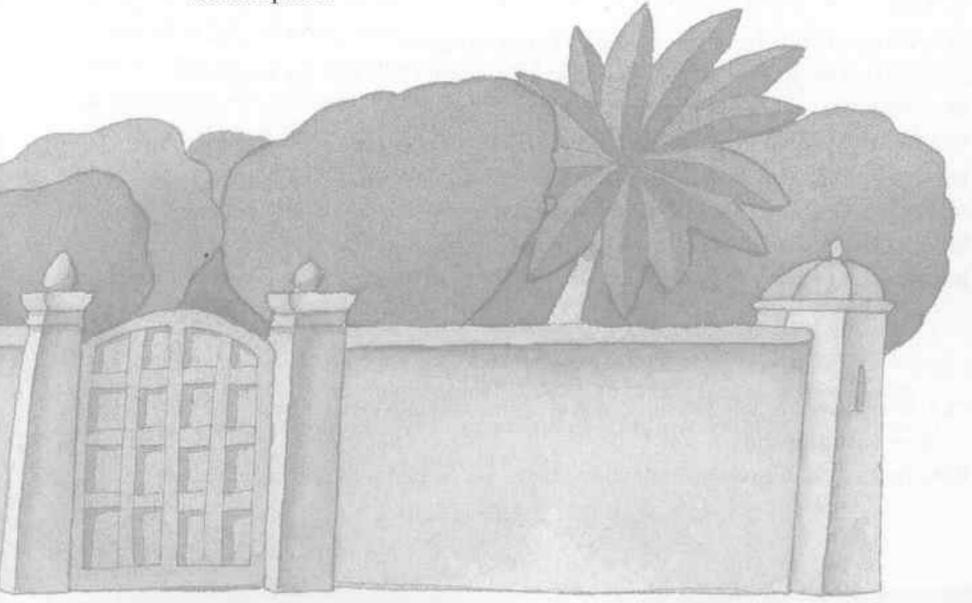
HERO: And here's another,

Writ in my cousin's hand, stol'n from her pocket,

Containing her affection unto Benedick.

BENEDICK: A miracle! Here's our own hands against our hearts. Come, I will have thee, but by this light, I take thee for pity.

BEATRICE: I would not deny you, but by this good day, I yield upon great persuasion, and partly to save your life, for I was told you were in a consumption.



Much Ado About Mothing

Playscript



A street in Messina. LEONATO, HERO and BEATRICE are walking together. Enter a MESSENGER.

MESSENGER: The Prince of Aragon is coming to Messina. He will arrive soon.

LEONATO: I see that Don Pedro is very pleased with Claudio.

BEATRICE: What about Benedick? Have you got any news about him?

MESSENGER: He, too, has come home safely. He is famous for his humour.

BEATRICE: His humour's the only good thing about him.

MESSENGER: Benedick is not in your good books.

BEATRICE: If Benedick were in my good books, I would never read them again.

Enter DON PEDRO, DON JOHN, BENEDICK and CLAUDIO.

LEONATO: Welcome to Messina. I am happy that you will be my guest while you are here.

DON PEDRO: Is this beautiful young girl your daughter?

LEONATO: Yes. At least her mother has always said Hero was my daughter!

BENEDICK: Do you doubt it, sir?

BEATRICE: What a fool you are. Can't you see how everyone is laughing at you?

BENEDICK: I see you're still alive, Lady Scornful.

BEATRICE: Of course I'm still alive. My scorn feeds off you - didn't you know that?

BENEDICK. All the ladies love me, except you. But I don't care for any of them.

BEATRICE: At least you won't marry one of them and make her unhappy.

Everyone moves towards Leonato's house, except CLAUDIO and BENEDICK.

CLAUDIO: I want to talk to you. Did you notice Leonato's daughter Hero? Did you see how beautiful she is?

BENEDICK: You're in love! But surely you're not thinking of getting married?

CLAUDIO: If Hero would marry me, I'd certainly be very happy!

DON PEDRO re-enters.

DON PEDRO: What are you two talking about? Is it a secret?

BENEDICK: Claudio is in love with Hero - that's our secret, sir!

DON PEDRO: You'll fall in love one day, my young friend. I shall see you pale with

love one day.

BENEDICK: Never! I'll never surrender to just one woman.



The garden in Leonato's house. Enter DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO.

DON PEDRO: What's all this about you and Hero?

CLAUDIO: I liked her when I saw her last, before we went away to the war. Now that I've seen her again, I'm sure of it – that's the girl for me!

DON PEDRO: She's a beautiful girl, and she comes from a good family. I'll do what I can to help you. There's going to be a big party at Leonato's house tonight. Everybody will be wearing masks. I'll talk to Hero. I'll pretend to be you, you see?

Enter one of Antonio's servants. He hides behind a tree, to hear what DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO are saying.

CLAUDIO: What do you mean, sir?

DON PEDRO: I'll tell Hero I love her. I'll tell her I can't live without her. Then I'll go to her father and tell him everything.

SERVANT: Don Pedro's in love with Hero – I must go and tell my master immediately!

Exit the servant.

DON PEDRO: Then you'll be able to marry her!

LEONATO and ANTONIO meet in the house.

ANTONIO: I've got some extraordinary news for you!

LEONATO: What kind of news?

ANTONIO: The Prince is in love with your Hero. One of my servants saw Don Pedro and Claudio talking together. The Prince said he would speak to Hero at the party tonight. He's going to tell her he loves her!

LEONATO: I'd better tell Hero about this - then she'll know what to do if the Prince speaks to her.

A room in Leonato's house. DON JOHN, CONRAD and BORACHIO are talking together.

DON JOHN: What's the news, Borachio?

BORACHIO: Claudio is going to marry Hero.

DON JOHN: Claudio - I hate that young man! I wish I could do something that would

damage Claudio. Will you two help me?

BORACHIO: Whatever you wish, sir - you know that.

CONRAD: I'll do what I can to please you, sir.



The masked ball at Leonato's house. Enter HERO, DON PEDRO, CLAUDIO, BENEDICK, wearing masks.

DON PEDRO: Will you walk with me?

HERO: I'll walk with you if you are handsome, and if you don't talk too much.

DON PEDRO: Let's talk about love.

Another part of the chamber.

BENEDICK: Someone told me that you get all of your jokes from books.

BEATRICE: I bet it was Benedick who said that. He doesn't like me at all – it's just the kind of thing Benedick would say about me!

BENEDICK: Who's Benedick?

BEATRICE: Oh, he's Don Pedro's clown. He's a fool really, and not funny at all. He just says rude things about everyone, and that makes fools laugh. If people don't laugh at what he says, he gets very unhappy. He thinks he's very clever, but everyone hates him, really.

Another part of the chamber.

DON JOHN: You're Benedick, aren't you? You're a friend of my brother the Prince.

Please tell him that he cannot marry Hero. She does not come from a noble family.

CLAUDIO: What makes you think Don Pedro wants to marry Hero?

DON JOHN: I heard them talking. He told her he loves her. I don't like it at all! Exit DON JOHN. Enter BENEDICK.

BENEDICK: You've heard the news? The Prince has stolen Hero from you, Claudio!

CLAUDIO: Leave me alone, Benedick, just leave me alone!



BENEDICK and DON PEDRO talking outside the chamber.

DON PEDRO: Have you seen Claudio? I want to talk to him.

BENEDICK: He's in the hall. He's very upset. You shouldn't have stolen Hero from him.

DON PEDRO: I haven't stolen Hero from Claudio. I've just asked Leonato if Claudio

can marry her! By the way, why is Beatrice so angry with you?

BENEDICK: It's a silly business - I can't stand her!

Enter CLAUDIO and HERO, holding hands and smiling. BEATRICE enters with them.

DON PEDRO: You see, I told you the truth. Leonato has said that Claudio and Hero can be married. Now do you believe that I'm Claudio's friend?

BEATRICE: Everyone is getting married except me.

DON PEDRO: I'll find you a husband.

BEATRICE: Thank you, sir, but I'll never marry.

Exit BEATRICE. DON PEDRO, LEONATO and CLAUDIO remain talking together.

DON PEDRO: Well, you'll be a married man one week from now.

CLAUDIO: I wish the wedding were tomorrow!

DON PEDRO: I know you're impatient, but we'll make this week a very pleasant one for you. I'm going to arrange another wedding – between Beatrice and Benedick! Will you all help me to arrange it?

LEONATO: Very well.

CLAUDIO: Of course we will.

HERO: I promise.

DON PEDRO: I've got a plan.

Another room in the house. DON JOHN, BORACHIO and CONRAD are talking together.

BORACHIO: I think I know how we can spoil this wedding.

DON JOHN: Well, what is it? What are we going to do?

BORACHIO: You know that I'm very close to Margaret – very, very close, if you know what I mean?

DON JOHN: How can that help us?

BORACHIO: Don Pedro thinks that Hero is a beautiful and honourable girl. Go and tell him that she is not honourable at all, sir. Tell the Prince that Hero has a secret lover – me! Say that you can prove it. Make Claudio and Don Pedro stand under Hero's bedroom window. I will then stand at the window. I'll talk to Margaret as if she were Hero. The Prince and Claudio will think Hero is in love with me – Claudio will call off the wedding!

DON JOHN: It might just work! Let's try your plan, Borachio.



The garden. BENEDICK is walking by himself, when he sees DON PEDRO, CLAUDIO, LEONATO and OTHERS. He hides in order to hear what they are saying.

DON PEDRO: What was that you were saying before, about Beatrice being in love with Benedick?

LEONATO: It's true. She loves him, there's no doubt about that.

DON PEDRO: What makes you think she's really in love?

LEONATO: She told you all about it, didn't she?

CLAUDIO: She's really in love. She told me herself. But she can't tell him, you see, because she thinks Benedick would just laugh at her.

LEONATO: She's even tried writing a letter to tell him what she feels. But she didn't send it. Poor girl, she's suffering very badly!

DON PEDRO: Let's help Beatrice by letting Benedick know that she loves him.

CLAUDIO: No, no! Benedick would just laugh at her. We mustn't say anything, sir.

Exit DON PEDRO, LEONATO and CLAUDIO. BENEDICK remains alone in the garden.

BENEDICK: They say she loves me. Perhaps I've been wrong about her. She's a lovely girl, after all!

BEATRICE comes into the garden.

BEATRICE: I've been sent to look for you. Dinner is ready, and everyone is waiting for you.

BENEDICK: Thank you for the trouble you have taken to find me.

BEATRICE: Trouble? It was no trouble to come and look for you.

BENEDICK: If it was no trouble, perhaps it was a pleasure to come and look for me?

BEATRICE: What makes you think it was a pleasure?

BEATRICE walks back to the house. BENEDICK watches her thoughtfully.

BENEDICK: There's no doubt about it. She said it was 'no trouble' to come and look for me. She really does love me!

Later in the garden. HERO and URSULA are talking. BEATRICE is listening to their conversation.

HERO: Poor Benedick is terribly in love with Beatrice.

URSULA: Are you sure? I thought that Benedick did not like Beatrice at all.

HERO: Claudio and the Prince told me all about it. They asked me to talk to Beatrice, but I said it would do no good. Beatrice is very proud, and she would just laugh at Benedick.

URSULA: You're probably right. Beatrice is so proud that she can't love anyone. It's better not to say anything to her about Benedick. She would just make the poor man suffer horribly with her cruelty and her jokes.

HERO: I'm going to talk to Benedick. I'm going to tell him that he's far too good for Beatrice.

URSULA: It's true that Benedick is very handsome.

HERO and URSULA leave the garden. BEATRICE is left alone.

BEATRICE: My friends think I am too proud! They say Benedick is a good man. Perhaps they're right – perhaps I should love Benedick!



Enter DON PEDRO, LEONATO, CLAUDIO and BENEDICK.

DON PEDRO: I must go home after your wedding.

CLAUDIO: Then I will accompany you. It's the least I can do after your kindness to me.

DON PEDRO: No. You don't want to go on a long journey just after your wedding. No, I'll take Benedick with me. The journey will be short once he starts telling his jokes and stories.

BENEDICK: I'm not as witty as I once was. I don't know why it is.

CLAUDIO: You do look quite sad. Is anything the matter?

BENEDICK: It's just a toothache.

DON PEDRO: I never knew that toothache could make a man look sad, Benedick.

CLAUDIO: I think he's in love. Look at the careful way he's dressed, and the trouble he takes with his hair – he's a man in love, I tell you!

BENEDICK frowns angrily at his friends' jokes, then he touches LEONATO's arm and goes away with him. DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO are left alone.

DON PEDRO: He's going to speak to Leonato! He's going to ask for permission to marry Beatrice.

Enter DON JOHN. He greets DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO politely.

DON JOHN: I have something to tell you.

DON PEDRO: Is it something private, or can Claudio stay and hear?

DON JOHN: My news is about Hero. I've discovered that she is not an honourable girl – she has a lover! I can prove that Hero is disloyal to you. Come with me tonight, both of you. We'll stand outside Hero's bedroom window – you'll see that what I've told you is the truth!

CLAUDIO: I can't believe it!

DON PEDRO: Neither can I!

DON JOHN: I don't want you to make a terrible mistake, Claudio. You can't marry a girl who behaves like Hero – she would dishonour you!'

CLAUDIO: Very well, I'll come with you tonight. If you're right about Hero I'll disgrace her at the church tomorrow morning. I'll tell everyone what sort of girl she is!



Messina at night. Enter DOGBERRY and other constables.

DOGBERRY: I'll tell you what you have to do. You walk around the gardens at night, and if you see anyone strange, you stop them. Is that clear?

WATCHMAN: What do we do if the person doesn't obey us?

DOGBERRY: If someone doesn't obey you, let him go. That kind of person can be dangerous, you know! Don't make a noise as you walk about. We don't want to disturb people. Don't wake people up by talking loudly.

WATCHMAN: I'd rather sleep than talk.

DOGBERRY: Well said! You can't make any mistakes if you go to sleep. But remember, you have to go to all the alehouses. Tell the people who have drunk too much that they should go home to bed.

WATCHMAN: What if they don't obey us?

DOGBERRY: Leave them alone if they don't obey you. You don't want to get into arguments with people who have been drinking. And the same thing for thieves. If you meet any thieves, stay away from them. No good can come from mixing with thieves.

Exit DOGBERRY. Enter BORACHIO and CONRAD.

BORACHIO: I've just earned a thousand crowns!

WATCHMAN: Ssh! I know that man, and I don't trust him. Let's listen, and see what happens.

CONRAD: A thousand crowns! How did you earn such a lot of money?

BORACHIO: It was easy. I spent the evening with Hero's lady-in-waiting, Margaret. She's just leant out of Hero's window to say goodnight to me. Claudio and the Prince saw everything!

CONRAD: They thought Margaret was Hero?

BORACHIO: That's right. Claudio is furious with Hero – he'll never marry her now! WATCHMAN: You're under arrest! Come on, you're coming with us. Dogberry will want to talk to you.

A room in Leonato's house, very early the next morning. DOGBERRY, VERGES and LEONATO are talking.

LEONATO: Well, my friends, what can I do for you?

DOGBERRY: I'll tell you, sir.

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VERGES: The constables have arrested two thieves.

DOGBERRY: Correct, the constables have arrested two thieves. We want to question them in front of you, sir. That's why we're here.

LEONATO: I'm too busy today. Question them, and come and tell me what you've learned from them later.



Act + Eight

The church. All the main characters are present.

FRIAR FRANCIS: Have you come here to marry Hero?

CLAUDIO: No, I have not.

LEONATO: Quite right, quite right. Claudio has come here to be married to Hero – it's you who will marry Hero, friar!

FRIAR FRANCIS: Do either of you know anything that makes you think this marriage should not take place? Do you, Claudio?

LEONATO: Of course he doesn't!

CLAUDIO: Are you happy to give me your daughter?

LEONATO: Yes, I am.

CLAUDIO: Must I give you something in exchange for this precious gift?

LEONATO: Of course not.

DON PEDRO: Unless you give her back to him!

CLAUDIO: Take your daughter back again. Don't give your friend a rotten gift. Your daughter looks lovely, I admit, but she's dishonourable. I don't want her! She is disloyal.

DON PEDRO: I am ashamed that I encouraged Claudio to marry Hero. She is not worthy of him.

LEONATO: I can't believe that this is happening.

CLAUDIO: I want to ask your daughter one question. You were speaking to a man from your window last night. Who was he?

HERO: I didn't speak to any man last night

DON PEDRO: You're lying! We saw you talking to a man, Hero!

HERO faints, and falls to the floor of the church. DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO walk out of the church.

BEATRICE: Help her! Help her, uncle!

LEONATO: I hope she dies! Hero has brought dishonour on our family.

FRIAR FRANCIS: I have been watching Hero very carefully. I believe that she is innocent. I believe there has been a mistake.

LEONATO: It's impossible. Claudio and the Prince both saw her talking to a man. The evidence is clear!

HERO regains consciousness.

FRIAR FRANCIS: Were you speaking to a man last night?

HERO: No, I swear it.

FRIAR FRANCIS: I believe her. There has been a mistake somewhere. I have an idea.

Claudio and the others think that Hero is dead. Let's pretend that she really is dead for a while.

LEONATO: What's the point of pretending that Hero is dead?

FRIAR FRANCIS: When people hear that Hero is dead, they will feel sorry for her.

Claudio will remember that Hero died as a result of his accusation. He will wonder whether he was right about her.

BENEDICK: I like this plan of yours, friar. I'll do everything I can to help you.

Everyone leaves the church except BENEDICK and BEATRICE.

BENEDICK: I think Hero is innocent.

BEATRICE: I wish someone could prove that she's innocent.

BENEDICK: I have something to tell you. I love you, Beatrice.

BEATRICE: How strange, I feel the same. I don't know how it's happened, but I think I love you, too.

BENEDICK: I'd do anything for you!

BEATRICE: Kill Claudio, then!

BENEDICK: Kill Claudio? Never!

BEATRICE: Then you don't really love me. You won't fight my enemy.

BENEDICK: Why is Claudio your enemy?

BEATRICE: Claudio has behaved very badly. I hate him for what he has done to Hero!

BENEDICK: Listen, Beatrice...

BEATRICE: She would never talk to a man from her window. She loves Claudio, I know she does!

BENEDICK: Do you really think that Claudio has behaved badly?

BEATRICE: Of course I do!

BENEDICK: Then I'll fight him! I'll fight Claudio for you.



LEONATO and ANTONIO in a street in Messina.

LEONATO: Don't tell me to be calm! I love Hero, and I can't bear the idea that she has been dishonoured.

ANTONIO: Think of the people who accused her. It's only right that they should suffer.

LEONATO: You're right. I'm sure that Hero is innocent. Claudio and the Prince have lied about her.

Enter DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO.

LEONATO: Just a moment. I want to speak to you. You have wronged my daughter.

Claudio, you lied about Hero, and now she's dead. I'm going to fight you, young man!

CLAUDIO: You're too old for fighting. I won't fight you, Leonato.

ANTONIO: Then you'll fight me, young man. I loved my niece. You'll fight me, I say!

LEONATO: Brother...

ANTONIO: Leave me alone! I'm not scared of fighting him.

DON PEDRO: Don't quarrel, gentlemen. I am sorry that Hero's dead, but she was guilty.

LEONATO leads ANTONIO away. DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO remain talking. Enter BENEDICK.

CLAUDIO: You're just the man we want. We're both sad, Benedick. We need you to cheer us up a little.

BENEDICK: I'm going to fight you. If you don't fight me, I'll tell everyone you're a coward!

DON PEDRO: Beatrice loves you. You'll be married soon, my friend – just as I told you! BENEDICK: My lord, you have always treated me well. I thank you for that. I will not serve you any longer. Your brother Don John has left Messina. The three of you have killed an innocent young child.

Exit BENEDICK.

DON PEDRO: I wonder what's the matter with him!

Enter DOGBERRY, with BORACHIO and CONRAD as prisoners.

DON PEDRO: Stop! Tell me why these two men are prisoners. What have they done?

DOGBERRY: These two men have told lies about a lady here in Messina.

医神经畸形 医眼性 的复数经验 医多种性 医多种性 医神经性 医神经性 医神经性神经病

BORACHIO: The constables heard me telling Conrad about Don John's plan to deceive

you and Claudio. It was your brother who invented the story about Hero. She was innocent. And now she's dead. I am very sorry, sir.

CLAUDIO: Poor Hero!

Enter LEONATO.

LEONATO: Where's the man who killed my daughter with his lies?

BORACHIO: It was me, sir.

LEONATO: You didn't do it by yourself. Don John, Don Pedro and Claudio – they killed her as well.

CLAUDIO: I was wrong, I treated Hero badly. You must punish me if you wish. But I made an honest mistake.

LEONATO: You can't bring my daughter back. Tell the people of Messina that my daughter was innocent. And tonight, come to her grave and pray for her there. Write an epitaph for her tomb. There's something else you can do. My brother Antonio has a daughter. She's very like poor Hero. Marry my brother's daughter, just as you would have married mine. Will you do that?

CLAUDIO: I'll marry your niece. It's the least I can do.



A church at night. DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO are praying.

DON PEDRO: It's time to go. Remember you are going to marry Antonio's daughter this morning – you promised you would.

CLAUDIO: I'm ready.

Leonato's house that morning.

FRIAR FRANCIS: I told you Hero was innocent! Didn't I say she was innocent all the time? LEONATO: Claudio and Don Pedro are innocent, as well. It was all Don John's fault. Now, Antonio, you know what we're going to do when Claudio and Don Pedro arrive. We will pretend that Hero is your daughter. She will wear a heavy mask. Claudio will be marrying the girl he loves, but he won't know it – it'll be a great joke!

BENEDICK: I'm in love with your niece, Beatrice – I want your permission to marry her. LEONATO: Just as Don Pedro and Claudio predicted! I give you my permission to marry Beatrice.

Enter DON PEDRO and CLAUDIO.

LEONATO: Well, Claudio, do you remember your promise? Are you ready to marry Antonio's daughter?

CLAUDIO: I'll keep my promise.

ANTONIO leaves the room. He returns with HERO and BEATRICE, who are wearing masks.

CLAUDIO: We are going to be husband and wife. May I see your face before the wedding?

LEONATO: No! You may not see her face until the wedding is concluded.

CLAUDIO: Then take my hand. I will lead you to the friar. I will be your husband if you wish it.

HERO: I've been your wife before.

HERO removes her mask.

CLAUDIO: Another Hero!

HERO: The first Hero died in shame. Here I am, another one.

DON PEDRO: It really is Hero - she didn't die at all!

FRIAR FRANCIS: I'll explain everything. But first, let's have the wedding!

BENEDICK: One moment, Friar Francis. Which one is Beatrice?

BEATRICE: I am. What do you want, Benedick?

BENEDICK: Do you love me?

BEATRICE: Beyond reason, no.

BENEDICK: Then Don Pedro, Claudio and Leonato were wrong. They told me you loved me madly.

BEATRICE: And you, do you love me, Benedick?

BENEDICK: Beyond reason, no.

BEATRICE: Then Margaret, Ursula and Hero were wrong. They said you loved me madly.

BENEDICK: Then you really don't love me?

BEATRICE: Not really. I only love you because you love me.

CLAUDIO: This is all nonsense! Benedick loves Beatrice, I'm sure of it. Look, I've got a poem he wrote to her!

HERO: And Beatrice loves Benedick! I've got a letter she wrote to him. Look, here it is!

BENEDICK: We do not love each other, but it seems our hands are in love. Let's marry, all the same.

BEATRICE: I'll marry you, but only to save your life, Benedick – they said you were so unhappy without me!

EXIT TEST

Focus on the context

- 1 Answer the following questions.
 - a. Where and when was William Shakespeare born?
 - b. In which language did Shakespeare study at the local grammar school?
 - c. How many plays did Shakespeare write?
 - d. When was Much Ado About Nothing written?
 - e. What type of play is it?



Focus on the story

What was the messenger's reaction to Beatrice's comments about Benedick?
 A He was amused.

For questions 1-12, choose the correct answers (A, B, C or D).

B He was furious.

C He was embarrassed.

D He was unhappy.

2. What does Leonato joke about with Benedick?

A The fact that Benedick constantly changes friends.

B The fact that Hero cannot possibly be Benedick's daughter.

C The fact that Benedick is famous for his humour.

D The fact that Beatrice was rude about Benedick.

3.	What	did Antonio's servant understand?
	A	That Claudio was in love with Hero.
	B	That Don John was in love with Hero.
	C	That Benedick was in love with Hero.
	D	That Don Pedro was in love with Hero.
4.	What	type of daughter is Hero?
		A dutiful one.
	B	A disobedient one.
	C	An arrogant one.
	D	A defiant one.
5.	What	was Borachio's plan?
		To help arrange a wedding between Beatrice and Benedick.
	В	To help spoil the wedding between Claudio and Hero.
	C	To help arrange a wedding between Margaret and Claudio.
	D	To help Don Pedro fall in love with Beatrice.
6.	How	are both Beatrice and Benedick tricked?
	A	They are both asked to listen to each other declaring their love.
	В	Claudio talks to Benedick and Hero talks to Beatrice.
	C	Balthazar plays them both a song to show them that they love each other.
	D	They both overhear conversations in the garden which claim that they are in love with each other.
7.	What	terrible news did Don John bring?
	A	That Claudio was in love with someone else.
	В	That Leonato had just decided that Hero couldn't marry Claudio after all.
	\Box C	That Hero was in love with someone else.
	D	That Hero had just had a terrible accident.
		That from had just had a terrible accident.

8.	How	much money did Borachio e	arn?	
	A	A hundred ducats.		
	В	Five hundred ducats.		
	C	A thousand ducats.		
	D	A hundred thousand ducat	S.	
9.	What	t happened at the church in f	ront of the friar?	
	A	Beatrice and Benedick deci	ded to get married.	
	В	Hero married Don Pedro in	stead of Claudio.	
	С	Beatrice fainted because sh lover.	e was accused of having a	secret
	_ D	Claudio announced in publ Hero any more.	ic that he didn't want to n	narry
10	.Whos	se lies killed Leonato's daugh	iter?	
	A	Borachio's.		
	В	Claudio's.		
	C	Dogberry's.		
	D	Conrad's.		
11	.What Hero?	t was Claudio's reaction whe	n he realised he was really	marrying
	\square A	Horrified, as he still felt sh	e was guilty.	
	В	Upset, because he liked the	idea of marrying Hero's c	ousin.
	C	Overjoyed, because he real	ly loved Hero.	
	D	Shocked, because he wasn'	t sure he loved her any mo	ore.
12	.Who	did Benedick finally marry?		
	A	Hero.		
	В	Margaret.		
	С	Ursula.		
	D	Beatrice.	SCORE	/12

3	Are the following questions true (T) or false (F)? Correct sentences.	the	false
		T	F
a.	Leonato, the Governor of Messina, had two daughters, Hero and Beatrice.		
b.	Beatrice was always very polite about Benedick.		
c.	Claudio fell in love with Hero and lost all interest in the army.		
d.	Don Pedro came up with a good idea to let Hero know that Claudio was in love with her.		
e.	Don John hated Claudio.		
f.	Hero always refused to do what her father told her to.		
g.	At the party at Leonato's house, Beatrice spoke to Don Pedro.		
h.	Benedick overheard Leonato, Claudio and Don Pedro saying that Beatrice was in love with him.		
i.	Beatrice wasn't meant to overhear Hero talking to Ursula and Margaret about herself.		
j.	Benedick said he looked sad because he had a headache.		
k.	Don John told Leonato and Claudio that Hero wasn't an honourable girl.		
1.	Hero died on the day of her wedding to Claudio.		
m.	Beatrice believed that Hero was innocent.		
n.	Benedick agreed to fight Claudio because he was in love with Beatrice.		
о.	Claudio agreed to marry Beatrice.		
p.	Two couples finally got married.		

SCORE 16
TOTAL SCORE 33

About Nothing

KEY TO THE ACTIVITIES AND EXIT TEST

KEY TO THE ACTIVITIES

Shakespeare's Life

Page 10 - exercise 1

- a. He was born in Stratford-on-Avon. CERTAIN
- b. He was born on 23 April, 1564. LIKELY
- c. John Shakespeare and Mary Arden were his parents. CERTAIN
- d. He went to a local grammar school.
- e. He was eighteen years old. CERTAIN
- f. He had three children: Susanna, Hamnet and Judith. CERTAIN
- g. He was a schoolmaster. LIKELY
- h. An actor in the Queen's Company died shortly before the company visited Stratford-on-Avon, and Shakespeare took his place. LIKELY
- i. He worked with the Lord Chamberlain's Men which later changed its name to the King's Men. CERTAIN
- j. His theatrical works were published after his death. CERTAIN

Shakespeare's Much Ado About Nothing

Page 12 - exercise 1

a. The Prince of Aragon Don

Pedro.

- b. Benedick and Claudio.
- c. Hero.
- d. Beatrice.
- e. Claudio.
- f. The Prince and Claudio.
- g. Benedick.
- h. Hero.
- i. Don John.
- The local constables Dogberry and Verges.

Page 13 - exercise 1

1 both / 2 each / 3 at / 4 for / 5 When /

6 his / 7 the / 8 it / 9 asked / 10 is /

11 will / 12 many / 13 few / 14 killed /

15 is / 16 has / 17 about / 18 to /

19 did / 20 how

Chapter One

Page 22 - exercise 1

- a. Leonato is the Governor of Messina.
- b. His daughter Hero, and his niece Beatrice.
- c. He brings a letter which says that the Prince of Aragon is arriving and that he has won a great victory.

- d. He knows that Beatrice and Benedick are always telling jokes about each other.
- e. A young Florentine who is Benedick's new friend in the army.
- f. One of Don Pedro's young officers.
- g. His is famous for his wit and humour.
- h. She jokes about him.
- She means that he changes friends easily and often.
- j. Hero.

Page 22 - exercise 2

- a. At least her mother has always said Hero is my daughter! (p. 19)
- b. You may see me pale with illness, or pale with anger, my Lord – but you'll never see me pale with love. (p. 21)
- c. Why should I doubt it? You were still a child! (p. 19)
- d. Lucky men! At least you won't make one of them unhappy. (p. 20)
- e. My scorn feeds off you. (p. 20)
- f. A friendship is like a hat to Benedick – it lasts until there is a new fashion! (p. 19)

Page 23 - exercise 3

- a. each other
- b. each other
- c. themselves
- d. themselves
- e. each other
- f. themselves
- g. each other

Page 23 - exercise 1

1 c. / 2 b. / 3 b. / 4 a. / 5 c. / 6 b. / 7 a. / 8 b. / 9 c. / 10 a. / 11 b.

Chapter Two

Page 29 - exercise 1

- a. T
- **b.** T

- c. T
- d. F Leonato is going to have the party.
- e. T
- f. F He himself is going to pretend to be Claudio.
- g. F He only wishes to help his friend.
- h. T
- i. F He is very jealous of Claudio because Claudio is his brother's favourite.

Page 30 - exercise 2

- a. Although Beatrice is a funny, beautiful, young woman, Benedick doesn't like her. Beatrice is a funny, beautiful, young woman. However, Benedick doesn't like her.
- b. Although I much prefer Hero, Beatrice is certainly a splendid young woman. Beatrice is certainly a splendid young woman. However, I much prefer Hero.
- c. Although Beatrice says that a friend is like a hat for Benedick, Benedick is a good and faithful friend. Beatrice says that a friend is like a hat for Benedick. However, Benedick is a good and faithful friend.
- d. Although Claudio has always said that he doesn't want to get married, he is going to marry Hero. Claudio has always said that he doesn't want to get married. However, he is going to marry Hero.
- e. Benedick will fall in love someday, although he says that he will never surrender to one woman. Benedick says that he will never surrender to one woman. However,

- he will fall in love someday.
- f. It is really Claudio who is in love with Hero, although Antonio thinks that the Prince is in love with Hero. Antonio thinks that the Prince is in love with Hero. However, it is really Claudio who is in love with Hero.
- g. Although I am Don Pedro's brother, he prefers Claudio to me. I am Don Pedro's brother. However, he prefers Claudio to me.
- h. Although Don John has plotted against his brother before, they are friends now.
 Don John has plotted against his brother before. However, they are friends now.

Page 31 - exercise 3

1 now / 2 he loves her very much and wants to marry her / 3 says that he will pretend to be Claudio and tell her of Claudio's love / 4 hears part of what the Prince says / 5 that the Prince is in love with Hero / 6 tell / 7 the Prince's brother / 8 the Prince prefers Claudio to him / 9 plot against Claudio

Page 31 – exercise 1

- a. 'A man without a beard is too young for me.' (Beatrice)
- b. 'I'll walk with you if you are handsome and if you don't talk too much.' (Hero)
- c. 'I want to talk about love.' (Don Pedro)
- d. 'Benedick? Who's Benedick?' (Benedick)
- e. 'He thinks he's very clever, but everyone hates him, really.'
 (Beatrice)
- f. 'I don't like the news I don't like

- it at all.' (Don John)
- g. 'So the Prince has tricked me.' (Claudio)
- h. 'What a horrible girl she is I hate her.' (Benedick)

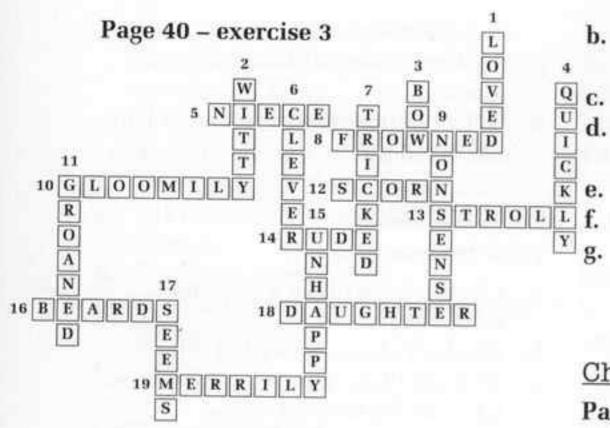
Chapter Three

Page 38 - exercise 1

- a. I hope you will do what your father wants.
- b. She will always obey her father.
- c. You are lucky that I don't like you because I have a lot of bad qualities.
- d. Since you are not really witty at all you have to get all of your jokes from books.
- e. Everyone hates him really, although he thinks he's very clever.
- Her family is not noble.

Page 39 - exercise 2

- h. Shakespeare is the famous poet who wrote Much Ado About Nothing.
- 2. f. The messenger gave Leonato a letter that/which said that the Prince of Aragon, Don Pedro, was coming for a visit.
- c. Don Pedro has a plan which/that will help Claudio win Hero.
- g. Everybody wore masks at the party Leonato gave at his house.
- d. Benedick is the man Beatrice likes to make fun of.
- a. Don John has a plan that/which will ruin Claudio.
- e. Beatrice is a young woman who is always making jokes.
- 8. b. Hero is the young woman Claudio wants to marry.



Page 41 – exercise 4 1 c. / 5 b. / 4 e. / 3 f. / 6 a. / 2 d.

Tragic and Comic Elements in Much Ado About Nothing

Page 43 - exercise 1

- a. Both plays are about the problems of love. They both have a helpful friar, and the heroines of the two plays, Juliet and Hero, both pretend to be dead.
- b. The staged death of Juliet leads to tragedy when Romeo discovers her, but in Much Ado About Nothing, the staged death of Hero leads to reconciliation between her and Claudio.
- c. It ends in tragedy.
- d. He is a typically English comic character in the tradition of Bottom of A Midsummer Night's Dream.
- It shows us how love can be created and ruined by very trivial forces.
- He is saying that their actions come from true love even if they are not aware that they love each other.

Page 44 – exercise 1

a. T

- b. False Benedick can't stand Beatrice.
- C.
- d. F He leaves because he doesn't want to talk to Beatrice.
- e.
- F He is being serious.
- F The Prince has a plan to arrange a wedding between Beatrice and Benedick.

Chapter Four

Page 50 – exercise 1

1. a. / 2. b. / 3. d. / 4. e. / 5. f. / 6. g. / 7. h. / 8. i.

Page 51 – exercise 2

- a. Beatrice shouldn't have been so rude to Benedick.
- b. Benedick shouldn't have tried to trick Beatrice at the party.
- c. Don Pedro should have talked more quietly to Hero.
- d. Claudio should have trusted Hero.
- Nobody should have trusted Don John.
- Benedick shouldn't have doubted that Don Pedro was really Claudio's friend.

Page 51 – exercise 3

- A. 1. Present perfect
 - 2. Conditional
 - 3. Future going-to
 - Present simple
 - Past simple
 - 6. Present perfect
 - Present simple
 - 8. Present simple
- B. 1. Future going-to
 - 2. Present simple
 - 3. Present perfect
 - 4. Present simple Past simple
 - Conditional

- 7. Present perfect
- 8. Present simple

Page 52 - exercise 4

- A. 1. didn't he?
 - 2. wasn't there?
 - 3. did he?
 - 4. won't you?
 - 5. was there?
 - 6. will you?
 - 7. don't they?
 - 8. haven't they?
- B. 1. wasn't he?
 - 2. didn't he?
 - 3. aren't I?
 - 4. wasn't he?
 - 5. does he?
 - 6. would she?
 - 7. did she?
 - 8. isn't it?

Page 53 - exercise 1

1. to / 2. much / 3. over / 4. / / 5. had /

6. not / 7. / / 8. all / 9. myself /

10. being / 11. / / 12. the / 13. / /

14. / / 15. to

Chapter Five

Page 61 – exercise 1

1. b. / 2. a. / 3. a. / 4. b. / 5. a. / 6. b.

Page 62 – exercise 2

A.

- d. Beatrice's jokes about Benedick were so rude that the messenger was shocked.
- Claudio is so timid that he asked Don Pedro to talk to Hero.
- 3. a. Don Pedro has made such a good plan that Benedick actually believes that Beatrice loves him.
- c. Benedick tells such funny stories that everybody always laughs.
- 5. e. Don John is so jealous that he has

- decided/decides to ruin Claudio's wedding.
- g. Balthazar sang such a beautiful song that everyone applauded.
- 7. b. Claudio will be so angry when he discovers that Hero has a secret lover that he will call off the wedding.

Page 63 - exercise 3

- b. Much Ado About Nothing, which takes place in Messina, talks about the fragility of love.
- c. Beatrice, who is Hero's cousin, is always making witty remarks.
- d. Don John, who is Don Pedro's brother, plots to destroy the love between Claudio and Hero.
- e. Claudio, who is a brave and capable soldier, is afraid to declare his love to Hero.
- f. Because of Don Pedro's clever plan Benedick, who has always sworn that he would never fall in love, is beginning to look at Beatrice differently.

Page 64 - exercise 1

1 day / 2 wedding / 3 journey / 4 place /
5 want / 6 short / 7 jokes / 8 don't /
9 exchanged / 10 serious / 11 anything /
12 make / 13 hair / 14 right / 15 explain

Chapter Six

Page 69 – exercise 1

1. a. / 2. d. / 3. c. / 4. a. / 5. c. / 6. b.

Page 70 - exercise 2

- a. distrust
- b. disobedient
- c. non-fiction
- d. dislikes
- e. unaware
- f. disbelieved
- g. dishonoured
- h. disloyal

Page 71 - exercise 3

1. d. / 2. a. / 3. b. / 4. c.

Page 73 - exercise 1

1 wedding / 2 protected / 3 presence /
4 seriously / 5 carefully / 6 announced /
7 anyone / 8 doesn't / 9 dangerous /
10 talking

Chapter Seven

Page 79 - exercise 1

- a. Dogberry.
- b. He was a very serious but silly man.
- c. Because of the presence of the Prince and the important wedding in the Governor's house.
- d. If someone doesn't obey you, let him go. If you meet any thieves, stay away from them. No good can come from mixing with thieves.
- e. He spent the evening with Hero's lady-in-waiting.
- f. He would like to question the prisoners in front of Leonato.
- g. No, he doesn't. He is too busy with the wedding.

Page 80 - exercise 2

- A. a. Something's going on, page76 Definition c.
 - b. He must be up to something, page 76 – Definition b.
- B. a. What's going on out there?
 - b. It's up to you to decide if you want to worry her or not.
 - c. I went on crying for hours and hours.
 - d. I am certain that he was up to something.
 - e. I turned the switch but the light didn't go on, so we used candles.
 - f. Are you sure that you are up to fighting him?

Page 80 - exercise 3

The name of the famous writer is Mary Lamb.

	ternio			1.	M	A	N	A	G	E
			2.	H	A	R	D	L	Y	
3.	D	I	S	G	R	A	C	E		
4.	F	U	N	N	\mathbf{Y}					
		5	C	A		T	0	F	F	1

5. C A L L O F F 6. S T A N D

7. H A N D S O M E 8. B L U S H E D

Page 82 - exercise 1

- a. Leonato says this because he does not yet understand that Claudio no longer wishes to marry Hero and that Claudio was serious when he said that he hasn't come to marry Hero.
- b. Leonato says this because he believes that Claudio has no reason not to marry Hero; he still does not understand what is going on.
- c. Don Pedro says this because he too believes that Hero has a lover and that Claudio might very well want to give her back.
- d. Claudio says this because, indeed, he now believes that Hero is a 'rotten gift', even if she appears to be very lovely.
- e. Hero says this to Claudio because she can't believe that he would say such a thing if he were not ill.
- f. Hero says this to Claudio after he has accused her of being with another man.
- g. Don John says this to Hero after she has tried to defend herself against their accusations.
- h. Don John says this to Claudio to convince him of Hero's guilt. He believes they should leave the church.
- Beatrice says this when Hero faints.

Chapter Eight

Page 89 - exercise 1

- a. Because he encouraged Claudio to marry Hero, and she is not worthy of him.
- b. Because he believes that he saw her at the window talking to her lover.
- c. She is totally unbelieving. She thinks that Claudio must be ill to say such things.
- d. Because he believes what Don Pedro and Claudio have said.
- e. The friar.
- f. He will have Claudio and Don Pedro believe that she has died.
- g. To fight Claudio.
- h. Yes, he does.

Page 90 - exercise 2

- a. I have written some poems for you.
- b. John has been reading Much Ado About Nothing and The Tempest.
- c. John has read Much Ado About Nothing and The Tempest.
- d. The constables have been interrogating Borachio for an hour.
- e. Balthazar has been singing Don Pedro's favourite song.
- Benedick has been in Messina for a week already.
- g. Beatrice and Benedick have been arguing again.
- h. I have been sitting by Hero's tomb since last night.
- The cook has been baking cakes.
- j. The cook has baked some cakes.

Page 91 - exercise 3

Possible answer
Dear Ferdinand,
Here in Messina there has been much
ado about nothing! Everybody is going
crazy, including me! Do you
remember how I used to say that I

would never surrender to one woman. Well now I am different. I am in love, really! And I am in love with a woman I used to hate. Her name is Beatrice and we used to make fun of each other. But all that has changed. My best friend Claudio has changed too, twice! Like me he used to say that he would never fall in love, and then he fell in love with the daughter of Governor of Messina, Hero. After that, all he thought about was her, and he no longer talked about the army or other interesting things. Just Hero. Now he thinks that Hero has betrayed him and he never wants to see her again; and Beatrice wants me to fight Claudio because of his rudeness to Hero! What a mess! Please send me some advice. Your loyal friend, Benedick

Women in Shakespeare's Comedies

Page 93 - exercise 1

- a. Because they were considered by the city authorities to be immoral institutions.
- b. Men or boys.
- c. He wrote several plays in which women disguised themselves as men.
- d. He created strong, independent and intelligent female characters.
- e. By love or marriage.
- f. They fight a war of wits.
- g. Their mutual attraction.

Page 94 - exercise 1

- a. Claudio does not wish to fight Leonato because Leonato is an old man.
- b. Although he believes that Hero is dead, the Prince is still convinced

that she was guilty.

- c. At first, Claudio is happy to see Benedick because he hopes that Benedick will cheer him up.
- d. Benedick comes to ask Claudio to fight but the Prince thinks that Benedick came to joke with his friend.
- e. Benedick will tell everyone that he is a coward if Claudio refuses to fight him.
- f. Dogberry has discovered that Borachio and Conrad have told lies about a lady of Messina.
- g. Borachio tells Don Pedro that Don John planned to deceive him and Claudio.

Chapter Nine

Page 103 - exercise 1

- a. T
- b. F − Now, after what the Friar said, he is convinced of her innocence.
- c. F He does not want to serve him because he thinks that he is responsible in part for Hero's death.
- d. T
- F She does not realise that she is part of the plan.
- f. T
- g. T
- h. F He has great difficulty writing a very simple poem.

Page 104 – exercise 2

- a. Don Pedro and Claudio made Benedick think that Beatrice was in love with him.
- b. Before Benedick met Beatrice, he had not let any woman love him.
- c. Don John's hatred of his brother does not let him live in peace.
- d. Leonato is going to let Claudio marry Hero.

- e. As we can see in this play love makes people do strange things.
- f. Antonio is not going to let his brother fight Claudio.
- g. Dogberry lets drunks go home.
- Leonato did not let Don John escape.
- Leonato has not let Claudio know that Hero is really alive.

Page 105 – exercise 3

Possible answer

Dear Harriet,

I know you think that Shakespeare is boring. But I've got the film of *Much Ado About Nothing* because I am sure you'll love it. First of all, it's filled with great actors that you have already seen. There's Keanu Reeves, who was fantastic in *Speed*. Michael Keaton has a comic role in this film. Do you remember how funny he was in *Beetle Juice*?

Maybe you don't know the director of this film, Kenneth Branagh, but he and the actress Emma Thompson have lovers' quarrels in this film and they are quite realistic since the two were actually married at the time!

Also, I have read a number of reviews of this film, all of them favourable. A certain James Berardinelli said that 'Those who don't find Shakespeare's comedies funny, this is the film to see, because it's hilarious.'

Anyway, all of Branagh's earlier films based on Shakespeare have been hits with the general public, and, anyway, it was filmed in the beautiful Tuscan countryside, so if you do find it boring in the end, you can always enjoy the lovely scenery.

Think about it!

Page 106 - exercise 1

a. F - Claudio composed it.

- b. T
- c. F He believes that it was all Don John's fault.
- d. F He believes that he is going to marry Antonio's daughter. He is, instead, going to marry Hero.
- e. F He still wants to marry Beatrice.
- f. T

Chapter Ten

Page 113 - exercise 1

1. c. / 2. d. / 3. a. / 4. c. / 5. c.

Page 114 - exercise 2

- 1b. 1 seriously / 2 earned / 3 lady-inwaiting
 - 1 constables / 2 question /
 - 3 wedding
- 2d. 1 rotten gift / 2 plot /
 - 3 wickedness / 4 tremble
 - 1 dishonour / 2 guilty / 3 pretend /
 - 4 funeral
- 3a. 1 each other / 2 enemy / 3 friend
 - 1 innocent / 2 mistake / 3 epitaph /
 - 4 cousin
- 4c. 1 tomb / 2 mask / 3 gasped /
 - 4 tears
 - 1 poem / 2 letter / 3 although /
 - 4 hands

A lot of bother about love

Page 116 - exercise 1

Possible answer

'Much ado about nothing' is used in modern English to mean that someone or some people create a whole mess about nothing in particular. It is similar in meaning to 'a storm in a tea cup'. Shakespeare might have given this play this title for two reasons. First, he might really be in agreement with Beatrice and Benedick at the beginning of the play and think that love is just nonsense. His play shows what a

fragile and changeable emotion love is, and all the ridiculous things that people do for it. After all, the lines he gives to Beatrice and Benedick at the beginning of the play are really good and convincing!

On the other hand, the 'nothing' of the title might refer to all the doubts and problems created when lovers don't trust the one they love or when they don't have the courage to face their real emotions. Beatrice and Benedick fight and argue, and for what? Nothing! In the end they finally admit they love each other.

Then there is Claudio who allows himself to be tricked by Don John, even though he probably knew that Don John was not such a good fellow. So in the story there is a funeral with the right woman and wedding with the wrong woman. And for what? Nothing!

Page 116 - exercise 2

Open answer.

Lines from Shakespeare

Page 116 - exercise 1

- a. This is the beginning of the play, and Beatrice is asking the messenger about Benedick's new friend.
- **b.** Benedick is explaining how he will never fall in love.
- c. Beatrice, in her witty fashion, is explaining why she will never marry.
- d. This is the scene where they trick Benedick into believing that Beatrice loves him.
- e. Benedick is beginning to believe that Beatrice loves him.
- f. Dogberry is giving orders to his men for their guard duty that night.

- g. This is the wedding scene when Claudio speaks badly of Hero because he thinks that she has betrayed him.
- h. This is the final exchange of insults between Benedick and Beatrice before they marry.

Page 116 - exercise 2

- a. Why then take no note of him, but let him go, and presently call the rest of the watch together, and thank God you are rid of a knave. (f – Act Three Scene 3)
- b. Come, I will have thee, but by this light, I take thee for pity.
 (h Act Five Scene 4)

- c. O, when she had writ it and was reading it over, she found Benedick and Beatrice between the sheet?
- d. I would not deny you, but by this good day, I yield upon great persuasion, and partly to save your life, for I was told you were in a consumption.

(h - Act Five Scene 4)

(d – Act Two Scene 3)

- e. Well, if ever thou dost fall from this faith, thou wilt prove a notable argument.
- (b Act One Scene 1)
 f. She's but the sign and semblance of her honour.
 (g Act Four Scene 1)

KEY TO THE EXIT TEST

Focus on the context

1

- a. In Stratford-upon-Avon in 1564.
- b. Latin.
- c. Thirty eight.
- d. Between 1598 and 1599.
- e. It's a comedy about love.

Focus on the story

2

1. C 2. B 3. D 4. A 5. B 6. D 7. C 8. C 9. D 10. A 11. C 12. D

3

- a. False Leonato, the Governor of Messina, had one daughter, Hero and one niece, Beatrice.
- b. False She was always very rude about him.
- c. True

- d. True
- e. True
- f. False She always did what her father told her to. She was a very dutiful daughter.
- g. False She spoke to Benedick.
- h. True
- False The intention was for Beatrice to overhear them talking.
- False He said he looked sad because he had a toothache.
- k. True
- False She fainted on the day of her wedding to Claudio and then everyone pretended she really had died.
- m. True
- n. True
- False He agreed to marry Hero's cousin.
- p. True



Level 5

A Christmas Carol 小气财神

The Tragedy of Dr Faustus 浮士德的悲剧

Washington Square 华盛顿广场

A Midsummer Night's Dream 仲夏夜之梦

American Horror 爱伦·坡恐怖故事

Much Ado About Nothing 无事生非

The Canterbury Tales 坎特伯雷故事

Dracula 吸血伯爵

The Last of the Mohicans 最后的莫希干人

The Big Mistake and Other Stories 当代悬疑故事



《建筑图图等研究》 的图目版

莎士比亚著名喜剧。克劳狄奥爱上希罗,但 又害怕被拒绝,结果好友唐·彼得罗出手相助,安排一个别开生面的化装舞会撮合他 俩。当大家满以为一切都可有个完满的结局 时,唐·约翰却从中作梗,让克劳狄奥误认

为希罗另有所爱。爱之愈深,恨之愈切,克劳狄奥发誓复仇,于是, 一对鸳鸯的爱情磨难开始了……



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