

Othello--Act II, Scene i

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Describe the nature of the weather as the scene opens. What might the weather indicate about the "nature of things"?

4. What do we learn about Othello and how other people feel about him from his trouble at sea?

- 8. Why do Iago and Roderigo stay behind after all the others have left to travel to Cyprus? What is further revealed about Iago's plan? How does Roderigo respond to Iago's claims?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

5. Read the first 42 lines of Act II, scene iii again. Using examples from the text, explain the differences between how Othello speaks about and to Desdemona and how Cassio and Iago discuss the current "situation" between Othello and Desdemona. What might these speeches tell the audience about the characters of the men?

6. When Iago learns that his plan to influence Cassio's feelings about Desdemona has failed, what does he try to do?

7. Explain the significance of this line "He is a soldier fit to stand by Caesar and give direction." by explaining the speaker, the audience and the situation in which the line is spoken.

8. Trace the use of the word "honest" through Act II. Explain the irony in how it is being used.

9. When Iago is explaining to Othello what happened to cause the fight, why do you think he leaves Roderigo's name out of the narration?

10. What action does Othello take against Cassio upon hearing that he is responsible for the fight?

11. Explain the difference between the way Cassio and Iago view reputations. Is the view of reputation that Iago explains to Cassio an accurate depiction of how he really feels? How do we know?

12. How does Cassio misunderstand the "devil" in this situation?

13. Read Iago's soliloquy on lines 316-342. (II.iii,316-342) What do we learn about his character and his plan from this speech?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

Othello-Act III, Scenes i-ii

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Explain the action and purpose at the beginning of this scene.

4. How is the concept of honesty contrasted in the conversation between Iago and Cassio?

5. What request does Cassio make of Emilia?

6. Summarize the events of scene ii.

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

Othello--Act III, Scene iii

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. What is significant about the action at the beginning of the scene? What do we learn about the conversation between Desdemona and Cassio?

4. How does Iago take advantage of Cassio's departure as soon as Othello enters the garden?

- 5. Explain the irony in Desdemona's statement, "I have no judgement in an honest face..." (III.iii.49)

- 6. Explain Desmeona's tone in her conversation with Othello concerning Cassio.

- 7. Why do you think Iago is able to sow the seed of jealousy in Othello's heart, if Othello loves Desdemona as much as he claims he does? How does Iago influence Othello's thoughts?

- 8. Explain the meaning in Othello's speech that begins, "Why, why is this? Think'st thou I'd make a lie of jealousy..." (III.iii.181-196)

- 9. Reread Iago's speech beginning with, "I am glad of it..." (III.iii.197-208) How does Iago use Othello's personality as a part of his plan to ruin the Moor? What advice does he give Othello?

- 10. What does Iago reveal about his character in his interaction with Othello?

11. Desdemona's handkerchief becomes an important piece of stage business. Why did Desdemona produce it? What does Emilia plan to do with it? Finally, who gets it, and what is to be done with it?

12. How would you characterize the relationship between Iago and Emilia?

13. Iago's first step in his plan to dishonor Othello is to ruin the Moor's opinion of Cassio. That being accomplished, Iago then attempts to make Othello jealous. Again with only so much as a word, Iago is able to accomplish the task. After he retrieves that handkerchief from Emilia, how does he prompt Othello to discuss the proof again?

14. Why do you think Othello is willing to believe Iago without confronting his wife with the accusation? What do you believe the Shakespeare is saying about the relationships between men and women during this time?

15. Analyze Iago's statement that, "It is impossible you should see this were they prime as goats, as hot as monkeys, as salt as wolves in pride, and folks as gross as ignorance made drunk." (III.iii, 410-413)

16. At the end of Act III, scene iii, Othello makes a request. What does he ask of Iago? What is Iago given?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Othello--Act III, scene iv

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Explain how this scene's beginning is in direct contrast to the end of the previous scene.

4. What do you believe is the symbolism associated with the handkerchief?

5. Othello and Desdemona see each other for the first time since Iago has poisoned Othello's mind. How does Othello seem to be treating Desdemona? What language gives away the complexity behind Othello's emotions?

6. After Othello describes the importance of the handkerchief, he tries to elicit a response from Desdemona about where she may find the handkerchief. Evaluate the language between Desdemona and Othello. What do you notice about Othello's demeanor as it is illustrated through his language?

7. How does Desdemona interpret Othello's question in lines 47-94? (III.iv.47-94)

8. What do you believe is the central conflict at this point in the play? What do you believe will be Iago's further role in the conflict?

9. Explain the symbolism in Emilia's speech beginning with "But jealous souls will not be answered so." (III.iv.153-156) Explain the connection and the irony between Iago's earlier reference to the green-eyed monster and Emilia's reference to the monster above.

10. A foil is a character who contrasts or parallels a main character in a play or story. Some people characterize Emilia and Bianca as foil for Desdemona. How would you explain Emilia as foil for Desdemona?

- 11. In this scene, Othello recounts the way in which he came to have the handkerchief that Desdemona has lost. What does Othello's speech highlight about his character? How does this play into Iago's manipulation of the scenario between Othello, Cassio, and Desdemona?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Othello Act IV, Scene i

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. What physical reactions does Othello have to the news about Desdemona and Cassio? How might the audience interpret this response?

4. How does Othello misinterpret the dialouge between Cassio and Iago? How might an observant person realize that Cassio is speaking of Bianca rather than Desdemona?

5. With what does Othello charge Iago? How does Iago further influence Othello as they discuss Cassio's and Desdemona's murders?

6. How has Desdemona and Othello's relationship changed since the beginning of the play?

7. Who is Lodovico? What does his presence highlight about the change in Othello's character?

- 8. Explain the events as they transpire when Lodovico arrives. What do the events illustrate about Othello's transformation?

- 9. Pay attention to Othello's language in this scene. How does his use of language parallel his language in Act III? What does Othello's use of language explain about his character?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Othello--Act IV, Scene ii

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. How does Emilia prove to be a friend to Desdemona? How does her characterization of the cause of Othello's mistrust parallel Emilia's beliefs about men and marriage?

4. Read the interchange between Iago, Desdemona, and Emilia on lines 121-141. (IV.ii.121-141) What question does Desdemona ask of Iago? How does he initially respond? What does this say about his character?

- 5. Roderigo is absent throughout much of the play. Explain Roderigo's influence in the action action in the play despite his invisibility. How is this a testimony to Iago's manipulation? What is his purpose in this scene?

- 6. How does Iago manipulate Roderigo at the end of scene two? How do we know that Iago is manipulating Roderigo?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Othello--Act IV, Scene iii

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Explain the meaning of Emilia's statement, "Ay. Would you had never seen him!" (IV.iii.17) What is the context in which she makes the statement? How does Desdemona respond to Emilia's statement, and what does this illustrate about Desdemona's character?

4. Cite examples of foreshadowing in this scene and explain what they imply about Desdemona's knowledge of her death.

- 5. Explain the purpose of the final conversation between Emilia and Desdemona. Of what do the two women speak?

- 6. Read Emilia's final speech in Act Four. What comment do you believe Shakespeare might be trying to make about the relationships between men and women through Emilia's speech? How does Emilia's speech contrast Desdemona's beliefs about the relationships between men and women during the renaissance?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.



Othello Act V, Scene i

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Explain what Iago's speech beginning, "I have rubb'd this young quat almost to the sense," (V.i.11-22) illustrates about his character.

4. For what reasons does Iago say he wants Cassio dead?

5. In the battle, who is responsible for the wounds?

6. Explain Othello's reaction to Roderigo's and Cassio's injuries. With what does he give Iago credit?

7. Why does Roderigo say to Iago, "O, damn'd Iago! O inhuman dog!" (V.i.64)?

8. Explain Iago's implication of Bianca. Explain why you believe he chooses to implicate her.

9. What does Iago's statement, particularly the aside, on lines 127-132 lead us to believe about him?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms

Othello--Act V, Scene ii

1. Last Name

2. First Name

3. Read Othello's speech at the beginning of the scene. (V.ii.1-22) Explain Othello's state of mind. As he contemplates murdering Desdemona, with what does he compare taking her life?

4. Why does Othello ask Desdemona if she prayed before she went to sleep?

5. How does Desdemona try to convince Othello not to kill her? What is the effect of her final conversation with Othello?

6. Explain the symbolism and the recognition of the handkerchief in this final scene.

7. When Othello tells Desdemona of Cassio's death, what is her reaction? How does Othello interpret this reaction?

8. When Othello believes that he has killed Desdemona, explain his reaction to her death.

9. Why does Emilia repeat the phrase, "My Husband!" three times?

10. How is Emilia's fate parallell to Desdemona's?

11. Explain the irony in Iago's final statement.

12. Explain the inagery in Othello's final speech. What is he requesting? How does the imagery speak to his character?

This content is neither created nor endorsed by Google.

Google Forms