

# A Midsummer Night's Dream Project

(Homework Grade)

Deadline: June 2 (All Sections)

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Section \_\_\_\_\_

**Reading Schedule:** Use the guide on your Archie checklist to track your reading progress through the next three weeks. Remember that you should attempt to read the Shakespearean side of the text first. The modern translation is for your reference. You are not required to read the modern translation at all if you are able to understand the play without it.

**Directions:** Complete each section of all the pages in this packet on your own using information from your reading of the play, your notes from class, and group discussions. Answer all questions completely and review your work carefully before submitting it.

## Author Background

Review Seesaw Video

1. When was Shakespeare born and when did he die? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. In addition to writing plays, what else did Shakespeare do for a living? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What genre of play is *A Midsummer Night's Dream*? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Plot and Character Details

Review Notes on Characters and Plot

4. How does knowing the plot of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* before reading the text of the play itself affect your understanding of it? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Of the characters described in your notes, which one is the most interesting to you and why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# A Midsummer Night's Dream

## Act I



Would you trust your parents to pick your spouse? Why or why not?

If Hermia does not marry Demetrius, she has two options:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_



*"The course of true love never did run smooth." -Lysander*  
Is this true? Why or why not?

### Guided Questions:

#### Act 1, Scene 1

1. What does Lysander say about Demetrius' relationship with Helena? How could this complicate things?
2. What is Lysander and Hermia's plan?
3. Even though Helena loves Demetrius and is Hermia's best friend, why does she decide to tell Demetrius of Hermia and Lysander's plans?

#### Act 1, Scene 2

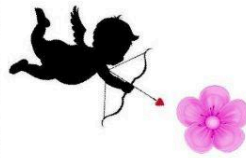
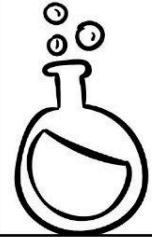
1. Describe the play that the actors are putting on.

# A Midsummer Night's Dream



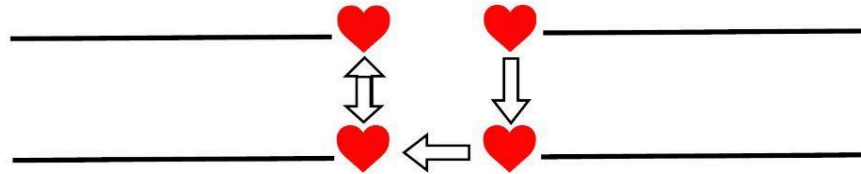
## Act 2

If you could use a **love potion** to make whomever you wanted fall in love with you, would you use it? Why or why not?



Describe what the "little western flower" does:

Fill out the new love box:



## Guided Questions:

### Act 2, Scene 1

1. Underline the line(s) that tell the reader *why* Oberon is jealous.

**The king doth keep his revels here to-night:**

**Take heed the queen come not within his sight;**

**For Oberon is passing fell and wrath,**

**Because that she as her attendant hath**

**A lovely boy, stolen from an Indian king;**

**And jealous Oberon would have the child**

**But she perforce withholds the loved boy.**

2. How does Oberon intend to use the love juice on Titania?

3. Describe the interaction between Demetrius and Helena?

4. What does Oberon tell Puck to do about Demetrius and Helena?

### Act 2, Scene 2

1. After all the mix-ups and craziness in this scene, make a prediction for what you think is to come in Act III:

# A Midsummer Night's Dream

## Act 3



Who is someone that you know personally or from popular culture who is similar to Puck.

Do you like the "Pucks" of the world?



What is "punny" about Bottom being transformed into an ass?

### Guided Questions:

#### Act 3, Scene 1

1. Why does Bottom think there needs to be a prologue?

2. Who transforms Bottom? What is the reaction of the other actors?

3. Who/what does Titania fall in love with upon waking?

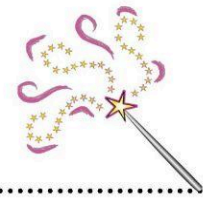
## The Catfight - Act 3, Scene 2

Write your own interpretation of the lines, use the modern version as a guide but do not plagiarize.

Original Text	Modern Text
<p><b>HELENA</b></p> <p>If you had any pity, grace, or manners, you would not make me such an argument.</p>	
<p><b>HERMIA</b></p> <p>O me! you juggler! you canker-blossom! You thief of love! what, have you come by night And stolen my love's heart from him?</p>	
<p><b>HELENA</b></p> <p>Fine, i'faith! Have you no modesty, no maiden shame, No touch of bashfulness? Fie, fie! you counterfeit, you puppet, you!</p>	
<p><b>HERMIA</b></p> <p>Puppet? why so? ay, that way goes the game. Now I perceive that she hath made compare Between our statures; she hath urged her height; And with her personage, her tall personage, Her height, forsooth, she hath prevail'd with him. And are you grown so high in his esteem;</p>	

<p>Because I am so dwarfish and so low? How low am I, thou painted maypole? Speak; How low am I? I am not yet so low but that my nails can reach unto thine eyes.</p>	
<p><b>HELENA</b></p> <p>O, when she's angry, she is keen and shrewd! And though she be but little, she is fierce.</p>	
<p><b>HERMIA</b></p> <p>Let me come to her. You, mistress, all this coil is 'long of you. Nay, go not back.</p>	
<p><b>HELENA</b></p> <p>I will not trust you, I, Nor longer stay in your curst company.</p>	
<p><b>HERMIA</b></p> <p>I am amazed, and know not what to say.</p>	

# A Midsummer Night's Dream



## Act 4

### DEMETRIUS

“But, my good lord, -- I know not by what power,--

My love to Hermia is melted as the snow,

And all the faith, the virtue of my heart,

The object and the pleasure of mine eye,

Is only Helena. To her, my lord,  
Was I betroth'd ere I saw Hermia.”

Demetrius never has the love juice removed from his eyes. What message is Shakespeare sending about love through Demetrius and Helena's relationship?

Fill out the final love box:

_____	♥	_____
	↕	
_____	♥	_____

### Act 4, Scene 1

1. Underline the line(s) below that show why Oberon is willing to lift the love juice from Titania's eyes.

#### OBERON

For, meeting her of late behind the wood,  
I then did ask of her her changeling child;  
Which straight she gave me, and her fairy sent  
To bear him to my bower in fairy land.  
And now I have the boy, I will undo  
This hateful imperfection of her eyes.

2. Theseus not only overrules Egeus' wishes, but he also tells the couples to meet him at his palace for what?

3. What is Bottom's first priority upon waking?

### Act 4, Scene 2

1. What is the attitude of Quince and Flute when seeing Bottom?

2. How do you think the play will go at the royal wedding? Use text support to defend this prediction.

### Did you know?

In the days before advertising, theatres such as the Globe used flags to communicate the genre of play that was being performed that day. Red flags were for history plays, black flags for tragedy plays, and white for comedies.



# A Midsummer Night's Dream

## Act 5



Read over Puck's closing lines of the play:

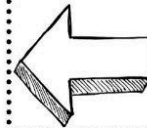
If we shadows have offended,/ Think but this, and all is mended,/ That you have but slumber'd here/ While these visions did appear./ And this weak and idle theme,/ No more yielding but a dream,/ Gentles, do not reprehend:/if you pardon, we will mend:/ And, as I am an honest Puck,/ If we have unearned luck/ Now to 'scape the serpent's tongue,/ We will make amends ere long;/ Else the Puck a liar call;/ So, good night unto you all./ Give me your hands, if we be friends,/ And Robin shall restore amends.

What excuse does Puck suggest if you were offended or did not like the play? What last impression did Shakespeare want his audience to walk away with?

**Highlight** the lines below that contribute to the tone of each play:

How is the end of Pyramus and Thisbe similar to Romeo and Juliet? Different?

<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	<i>Pyramus and Thisbe</i>
<p>Ah, dear Juliet, Why art thou yet so fair? Shall I believe That unsubstantial death is amorous, And that the lean abhorred monster keeps Thee here in dark to be his paramour? For fear of that, I still will stay with thee, And never from this palace of dim night Depart again. Here, here will I remain With worms that are thy chamber maids. Oh, here will I set up my everlasting rest, And shake the yoke of inauspicious stars From this world-wearied flesh. Eyes, look your last. Arms, take your last embrace. And, lips, O you The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss A dateless bargain to engrossing death. <i>(kisses JULIET, takes out the poison)</i> Come, bitter conduct, come, unsavoury guide. Thou desperate pilot, now at once run on The dashing rocks thy seasick, weary bark. Here's to my love! <i>(drinks the poison)</i> O true apothecary, Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die. <i>Romeo dies.</i></p>	<p>Sweet Moon, I thank thee for thy sunny beams; I thank thee, Moon, for shining now so bright; For, by thy gracious, golden, glittering gleams, I trust to take of truest Thisbe sight. But stay, O spite! But mark, poor knight, What dreadful dole is here? Eyes, do you see? How can it be? O dainty duck! O dear! Thy mantle good, What, stain'd with blood! Approach, ye Furies fell! O Fates, come, come, Cut thread and thrum; Quail, crush, conclude, and quell! Come, tears, confound; Out, sword, and wound The pap of Pyramus; <i>Stabs himself</i> Thus die I, thus, thus, thus. Now am I dead, Now am I fled; My soul is in the sky: Tongue, lose thy light; Moon take thy flight: Now die, die, die, die, die.</p> <p><i>Dies</i></p>



Did you know?

The Globe has twenty sides, three floors, and could seat roughly 3,000 people. The raised stage measured 27 by 43 feet.

