

A Midsummer Night's Dream Discussion Questions

1. Critic and poet W.H. Auden explains that “In *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, mythological characters are used to describe certain universal experiences that we cannot control” (Auden 56). Are the fairies figments of the characters’ imagination?
2. Critic Marjorie Garber says that “the wood functions...as a mirror as well as a lens” (Garber 218). Is this true?
3. Garber also discusses the “three parallel worlds” in the play: the court of Athens, the fairy world, and the world of the “rude mechanicals,” saying that “each of these ‘worlds’ is a reflection and refraction of the others” (Garber 221). Is this true?
4. Actor and Shakespeare scholar Ben Crystal says, “On the surface, it all seems pretty simple. Love mixed with love. Egotistical clown shamed and used, but unharmed. Wannabe actors succeed. Love reunited with love. Happy ending... But unpack it a bit...and a more complicated, carefully crafted piece glistens” (Crystal 86). Is it true that the play is less straightforward than it seems?
5. Crystal also says, “If there’s no sense of genuine threat, there’s no threat of genuine comedy” (Crystal 86). Does a genuine threat exist in the play?
6. In Act 1, Lysander says, “The course of true love never did run smooth” (Shakespeare 1.1.136). In Act 5, Theseus compares lovers to madmen (5.1.7-8). What does this play suggest about love?
7. Critic Harold Bloom says that “Lysander and Demetrius are interchangeable,” and while some have argued that Hermia and Helena are also interchangeable, Bloom argues that “Hermia has considerably more personality than Helena” (Bloom 153). Are the lovers interchangeable? If so, what does this suggest?

Works Cited

- Auden, W. H. *Lectures on Shakespeare*. Edited by Arthur C. Kirsch, Princeton University Press, 2000.
- Bloom, Harold. *Shakespeare: The Invention of the Human*. Riverhead Books, 1998.
- Crystal, Ben. *Springboard Shakespeare: A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Bloomsbury Arden Shakespeare, 2013.
- Garber, Marjorie B. *Shakespeare After All*. New York, Pantheon Books, 2004.
- Shakespeare, William. *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine, editors. Washington Square Press, 1993.

Questions About A Midsummer Night's Dream. by William Shakespeare. Reader Q&A. To ask other readers questions about A Midsummer Night's Dream, please sign up. Answered Questions (9). mine is 103 pages :/ why ? 3 likes Â· like.Â Ask and answer questions about books! You can pose questions to the Goodreads community with Reader Q&A, or ask your favorite author a question with Ask the Author. See Featured Authors Answering Questions. Learn more. A huge collection of Midsummer Night's Dream trivia quizzes in the literature category. Over 90 trivia questions to answer. Play our Midsummer Night's Dream quiz games now! How much do you know?Â 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' features human lovers, fairies, and let's not forget the mechanicals preparing to produce their version of 'Pyramus and Thisbe'. There are 9 Midsummer Night's Dream quizzes and 90 Midsummer Night's Dream trivia questions in this category. Free to play! Play this hour's "Trivia About Midsummer Night's Dream" mixed quiz game A new Midsummer Night's Dream quiz every hour! Over 90 quiz questions in rotation. Recent Scores. Trivia Questions. Free Literature Trivia Questions. 1. How much do you know about Shakespeareâ€™s play A Midsummer Nightâ€™s Dream? This section takes you step by step through the play, helping you to identify key plot points. Part of.Â What does Puck say the audience should do if they haven't enjoyed the play? Complain. Pretend it was a dream. Go to sleep. Check score.

Study Questions. 1. A Midsummer Night's Dream is set in three different locations. What are these locations? How do they differ? What type of atmosphere is created in each of the different settings, and how does this come across? 2. One of the play's major themes is love, and this theme is explored through the various relationships of the couples in the play. What aspects of love are presented in each of the different pairings? 3. In what ways do Theseus and Hippolyta parallel Oberon and Titania? 1. The characters in A Midsummer Night's Dream have various ways of speaking. What are some of the characteristics of how the four young lovers speak? Of how Bottom speaks? Of how Titania and Oberon speak? Analyze the language of the play. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS for "A Midsummer Night's Dream" FOR UNIVERSITY OR HIGH SCHOOL AUDIENCES 1. Why do you think Shakespeare took mythological and folklore tales and put them all in the same world? Does this seem to work? Why? 2. What do you think are Oberon's intentions of the cruelty of making Titania falling in love with Bottom with the Ass's head? Does he win the battle? Why or Why not? Do you think Titania completely loses control when under the spell? There are many characters in Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Take an in-depth look at the main ones identifying their key attributes and relationships and analysing their part in the play. Part of. English. A Midsummer Night's Dream. Add to My Bitesize. Add to My Bitesize. Revise. 2. Discuss the meanings of the play's title, A Midsummer Night's Dream. In addition to the title, what other references do you find to dreaming in the play? What relationship is created between dreaming and theater (look, for example, at Puck's final speech)? Why is Midsummer important to the themes of the play? 3. The play presents several different couples: Theseus and Hippolyta,; Hermia and Lysander, Helena and Demetrius, Titania and Bottom, and Titania and Oberon. What aspects of love are explored in each of these relationships? - 1A Midsummer Night's Dream. By William Shakespeare Context Question I. Given below is an extract from A Midsummer Night's Dream. Read the excerpt carefully and answer ALL questions that follow on the next page. Do not refer to the play for answers. Context. EGEUS Full of vexation come I, with complaint 1. Against my child, my daughter Hermia. Stand forth, Demetrius. My noble lord, This man hath my consent to marry her.