

**Marshman does Shakespeare: Shakespeare in a week, you must be joking!**

**A Midsummer Night's Dream: The course of true love never did run smooth**

Hello year 6 and welcome to another edition of English with Mr Marshman! This week we will be thinking about all things Shakespeare! I have four tasks for you to complete on the play A Midsummer Night's Dream and these can be spread out throughout the week as you like.

**Task 1 (take 2 days on this task) - Who was Shakespeare?**

Research who Shakespeare was and create a Shakespeare fact-file. You must include a picture or drawing of Shakespeare and at least 10 fun/interesting facts about him.

**Task 2 - What do you know about dreams?**

Why do we dream? When someone talks about their 'dream' job what does that mean? Are dreams always good things? Why do writers use dreams? The play we are going to look at is called A Midsummer Night's Dream what does that suggest about the events that happen in the story? Create a mind map about dreams. Use these questions to help you. Can you think of any examples of dreams in books, TV shows or films you might have seen?

**Task 3 - The plot**

Watch the following video which summarises the main action of the play.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Inu2A5iHROI>

Watch the story and put the sentences in order.

1

Oberon puts the magic juice on Demetrius, so now Lysander and Demetrius love Helena.

Puck puts the magic juice on Lysander, then Lysander falls in love with Helena.

At first, Demetrius loves Hermia, Hermia loves Lysander and Helena loves Demetrius.

The next morning, Demetrius and Helena are in love and Lysander and Hermia are in love.

Puck and Oberon take the magic spells away from Lysander, Bottom and Titania.

Hermia and Lysander run away and Demetrius and Helena follow them.

Puck changes Bottom's head into a donkey's head, then Titania falls in love with him.

Oberon puts magic juice on Titania's eyes so she'll fall in love with the first thing she sees.

As you can see this play involves a lot of magic, mischief and

misunderstanding. It's one of the reasons why it can create a lot of humour. Even if the Shakespearean language is hard to understand. It's very hard to keep track of who loves who when and why!! If you know what I mean! If you need more help on the plot you can read a summary here

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/zvs9q6f/revision/1> There is also another funny video here!

**Task 4 - The main characters**

The play has four different sub-plots or stories that are happening at the same time. This means there are a lot of different characters. I want you to create a character poster. I want you to include 4 characters on your posters. You can either create a poster of the lovers (Lysander, Demetrius, Helena and Hermia) or one of the Fairies and players (Oberon, Titania, Puck and Bottom). I want you to include a little drawing and a description of the character and their role in the story. If you need help with this you can look on this website

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/guides/z3fk7ty/revision/1>

Split your page into four quarters and have one character in each quarter. Make it as colourful as you can. Obviously, you can do your poster on computer if you prefer. Enjoy and I look forward to seeing your work.