



A Midsummer Night's Dream

Act 1





Act 1

Scene 1

Welcome to Athens



Brief Recap

Part 1:

- Theseus is getting married to Hippolyta in the city Athens
- Suddenly, Egeus, father of Hermia, asks Theseus to tell his daughter to marry Demetrius
- However, Hermia does not love Demetrius, and instead loves Lysander

Part 2:

- Lysander and Hermia plan to flee Athens to get married
- Hermia tells her friend Helena about their plan, trusting her
- However, Helena, who is in love with Demetrius, decides to tell him about Hermia's plan



Let's Analyze!

- What kind of story is this going to be? What do you think is going to happen next?
- Does this story remind you of anything you have seen before?
- Is there any part of the story that you don't understand? Was any of the vocabulary confusing?
- Think back to the name, "A Midsummer Night's Dream". Are dreams always good? Why are dreams important in this play?



Time for an Activity!



Activity: “Father and Children”

- Take a piece of paper and pencil and draw a father and son/daughter at a carnival. It's up to you what you want to draw them doing! What do you think a normal relationship between a dad and their child looks like? Be prepared to present these to the class!
- Question: How does the relationship between a parent and their child change throughout life?



What say you, Hermia? be advised fair maid:
To you your father should be as a god;
One that composed your beauties, and one
To whom you are but as a form in wax
By him imprinted and within his power
To leave the figure or disfigure it.

- **Theseus's speech**

- What is Theseus's main purpose of this speech? Is it to convince Hermia to run away with Lysander, or is it to encourage her to stay with her father?





Discussion Questions



Right or Wrong

Are parents always right? Can you think of a time your parents have been wrong?



Listen

Should you always obey your parents?



Argue

Is it ok to disagree with your parents as you grow older and become an adult?



Outside vs Inside



Outside

Outside of the figure,
write some words that
show how Hermia looks
to other people.

Inside

Now think! Inside the
figure, write some words
that you think describe
what Hermia secretly
thinks or feels.
(rebellious, romantic?)





Vocabulary

Words		Definitions
nuptial	1	Related to marriages or weddings
waggish	2	Humorous in a playful, mischievous manner
dowager	3	Widow, especially wealthy because of her dead husband
beguiled	4	Cheated
solemnities	5	Festive ceremonies
lingers	6	Delays, prolongs
austerity	7	Self-denial



Fun Fact!

The movie "Die Hard" is
actually inspired by
Shakespeare's A Midsummer
Night's Dream





Act 1

Scene 2

The Rehearsal





Brief Recap

Part 1:

- In another part of Athens, a group of average workers, known as the “Mechanicals”, plan to put on a play at Theseus’s wedding
- They decide to perform the play “The Most Lamentable Comedy and Most Cruel Death of Pyramus and Thisbe”

Part 2:

- Some of the actors include the weaver Nick Bottom, who wants to play all the parts, the carpenter Quince, who is in charge, and the weaver Snug, who is scared he cannot play the lion properly
- Note: All of these actors are men in Shakespeare!