

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 2 Scene 5, lines 11 to 41

In this extract, Shylock is preparing to dine with Antonio and Bassanio.

SHYLOCK

I am bid forth to supper, Jessica.

There are my keys. – But wherefore should I go?

I am not bid for love. They flatter me.

But yet I'll go in hate, to feed upon

The prodigal Christian. Jessica, my girl, 15

Look to my house. I am right loath to go –

There is some ill a-brewing towards my rest,

For I did dream of money-bags tonight.

LANCELOT

I beseech you, sir, go – my young master doth expect

your reproach. 20

SHYLOCK

So do I his.

LANCELOT

– And they have conspired together. I will not say you

shall see a masque, but if you do, then it was not for

nothing that my nose fell a-bleeding on Black-Monday

last, at six o'clock i' th' morning, falling out that year on 25

Ash-Wednesday was four year in th' afternoon.

SHYLOCK

What, are there masques? Hear you me, Jessica –

Lock up my doors, and when you hear the drum,

And the vile squealing of the wry-necked fife,

Clamber not you up to the casements then, 30

Nor thrust your head into the public street

To gaze on Christian fools with varnished faces;

But stop my house's ears – I mean my casements –

Let not the sound of shallow foppery enter

My sober house. By Jacob's staff I swear 35

I have no mind of feasting forth tonight –

But I will go. **(To Lancelot)** Go you before me, sirrah –

Say I will come.

LANCELOT

I will go before, sir.

(Aside, to Jessica) Mistress, look out at window for all

this –

There will come a Christian by 40

Will be worth a Jewess' eye.

Exit.

6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents Shylock's feelings in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Shylock chooses to dine with Antonio and Bassanio.

Explain the importance of making choices **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- how choices are shown
- the effect choices have within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 5 Scene 1, lines 142–169

In this extract, Nerissa and Gratiano are arguing in front of Portia.

GRATIANO

(To Nerissa) By yonder moon I swear you do me

Wrong!

In faith, I gave it to the judge's clerk –

Would he were gelt that had it for my part,

Since you do take it, love, so much at heart.

145

PORTIA

A quarrel, ho – already! What's the matter?

GRATIANO

About a hoop of gold, a paltry ring

That she did give me, whose posy was

For all the world like cutler's poetry

Upon a knife: 'Love me, and leave me not.'

150

NERISSA

What talk you of the posy or the value?

You swore to me when I did give it you

That you would wear it till your hour of death,

And that it should lie with you in your grave.

Though not for me, yet for your vehement oaths

You should have been respective and have kept it.

Gave it a judge's clerk! No, God's my judge,

The clerk will ne'er wear his hair on's face that had it!

155

GRATIANO

He will, and if he live to be a man.

NERISSA

Ay, if a *woman* live to be a man.

160

GRATIANO

Now, by this hand, I gave it to a youth! –

A kind of boy, a little scrubbèd boy

No higher than thyself, the judge's clerk –

A prating boy that begged it as a fee.

I could not for my heart deny it him.

165

PORTIA

You were to blame, I must be plain with you,

To part so slightly with your wife's first gift,

A thing stuck on with oaths upon your finger,

And so riveted with faith unto your flesh.

- 6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the relationship between Nerissa and Gratiano in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

- (b) In this extract, Gratiano has been deceived by Nerissa and Portia.

Explain the importance of deception **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- why deception is important
- the effects deception has within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 3 Scene 2, lines 114 to 148

In this extract, Bassanio is opening the casket.

BASSANIO

What find I here?

Fair Portia's counterfeit! What demi-god 115

Hath come so near creation? Move these eyes?

– Or whether, riding on the balls of mine,

Seem they in motion? Here are severed lips

Parted with sugar breath – so sweet a bar

Should sunder such sweet friends. Here in her hairs 120

The painter plays the spider, and hath woven

A golden mesh t' entrap the hearts of men

Faster than gnats in cobwebs. But her eyes! –

How could he see to do them? Having made one, 125

Methinks it should have power to steal both his

And leave itself unfurnished. Yet look how far

The substance of my praise doth wrong this shadow

In underprizing it, so far this shadow

Doth limp behind the substance. Here's the scroll,

The continent and summary of my fortune. 130

He reads the scroll from the casket

'You that choose not by the view

Chance as fair, and choose as true.

Since this fortune falls to you,

Be content, and seek no new.

If you be well pleased with this, 135

And hold your fortune for your bliss,

Turn you where your lady is

And claim her with a loving kiss.'

A gentle scroll! Fair lady, by your leave,

I come by note to give, and to receive. 140

He kisses PORTIA.

Like one of two contending in a prize

That thinks he hath done well in people's eyes,

Hearing applause and universal shout,

Giddy in spirit, still gazing in a doubt

Whether those pearls of praise be his or no – 145

So, thrice-fair lady, stand I even so,

As doubtful whether what I see be true,

Until confirmed, signed, ratified by you.

6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Bassanio in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, the correct choice of casket has the power to change Bassanio's life.

Explain the importance of power **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- how power is presented
- the effect of power within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 4 Scene 1, lines 1 to 34

In this extract, the Duke speaks to Antonio and Shylock in court.

DUKE

What, is Antonio here?

ANTONIO

Ready, so please your Grace.

DUKE

I am sorry for thee. Thou art come to answer
A stony adversary, an inhuman wretch,
Uncapable of pity, void and empty
From any dram of mercy.

5

ANTONIO

I have heard
Your Grace hath ta'en great pains to qualify
His rigorous course. But since he stands obdurate,
And that no lawful means can carry me
Out of his envy's reach, I do oppose
My patience to his fury, and am armed
To suffer with a quietness of spirit
The very tyranny and rage of his.

10

DUKE

Go one, and call the Jew into the court.

SALERIO

He is ready at the door: he comes, my lord.

15

Enter SHYLOCK

DUKE

Make room, and let him stand before our face.
– Shylock, the world thinks, and I think so too,
That thou but lead'st this fashion of thy malice
To the last hour of act, and then 'tis thought
Thou'lt show thy mercy and remorse, more strange
Than is thy strange apparent cruelty.
And where thou now exacts the penalty,
Which is a pound of this poor merchant's flesh,
Thou wilt not only loose the forfeiture
But, touched with human gentleness and love,
Forgive a moiety of the principal,
Glancing an eye of pity on his losses
That have of late so huddled on his back
Enow to press a royal merchant down,
And pluck commiseration of his state
From brassy bosoms and rough hearts of flint –
From stubborn Turks, and Tartars never trained
To offices of tender courtesy.
We all expect a gentle answer, Jew.

20

25

30

- 6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of the Duke in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

- (b) In this extract, the Duke describes the suffering that Shylock intends to inflict on Antonio.

Explain the importance of suffering **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- which characters suffer
- how suffering is shown within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 2 Scene 2, lines 1 to 30

In this extract, Lancelot is trying to decide whether to leave Shylock's service and go to work for someone else.

LANCELOT

Certainly my conscience will serve me to run from this Jew my master. The fiend is at mine elbow and tempts me, saying to me 'Gobbo, Lancelot Gobbo – good Lancelot' – or 'Good Gobbo', or 'Good Lancelot Gobbo – use your legs, take the start, run away!' My conscience says 'No! – Take heed, honest Lancelot, take heed, honest Gobbo' – or as aforesaid 'honest Lancelot Gobbo – do <i>not</i> run. Scorn running with thy heels.' Well – the most courageous fiend bids me pack.	5
'Via!' says the fiend, 'Away!' says the fiend – 'Fore the heavens rouse up a brave mind,' says the fiend, 'and run!' Well – my conscience, hanging about the neck of my heart, says very wisely to me: 'My honest friend Lancelot, being an honest man's son – or rather an honest woman's son' – for indeed my father did something smack – something grow to – he had a kind of taste – well, my conscience says 'Lancelot, budge not!' 'Budge!' says the fiend. 'Budge <i>not</i> !' says my conscience. 'Conscience,' say I, 'you counsel well. Fiend,' say I, 'you counsel well.' To be ruled by my conscience I should stay with the Jew my master, who – God bless the mark! – is a kind of devil. And to run away from the Jew I should be ruled by the fiend, who – saving your reverence – is the devil himself.	10
Certainly the Jew <i>is</i> the very devil incarnation – and in my conscience, my conscience is but a kind of hard conscience to offer to counsel me to stay with the Jew. The fiend gives the more friendly counsel. I will run, fiend – my heels are at your commandment.	15
I will run!	20
	25
	30

6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Lancelot in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

(b) In this extract, Lancelot could appear to be prejudiced against Shylock.

Explain the importance of prejudice **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- how prejudice is presented
- the effects prejudice has within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

***The Merchant of Venice* – from Act 3 Scene 4, lines 10 to 40**

In this extract, Portia hands over the running of her house to Lorenzo while she and Nerissa go away.

PORTIA

I never did repent for doing good,	10
Nor shall not now. For in companions	
That do converse and waste the time together,	
Whose souls do bear an equal yoke of love,	
There must be needs a like proportion	
Of lineaments, of manners, and of spirit –	15
Which makes me think that this Antonio,	
Being the bosom lover of my lord,	
Must needs be like my lord. If it be so,	
How little is the cost I have bestowed	
In purchasing the semblance of my soul	20
From out the state of hellish cruelty!	
This comes too near the praising of myself,	
Therefore no more of it: hear other things.	
Lorenzo, I commit into your hands	
The husbandry and manage of my house	25
Until my lord's return. For mine own part,	
I have toward heaven breathed a secret vow	
To live in prayer and contemplation,	
Only attended by Nerissa here,	
Until her husband and my lord's return.	
There is a monastery two miles off,	30
And there we will abide. I do desire you	
Not to deny this imposition,	
The which my love and some necessity	
Now lays upon you.	

LORENZO

Madam, with all my heart	35
I shall obey you in all fair commands.	

PORTIA

My people do already know my mind,	
And will acknowledge you and Jessica	
In place of Lord Bassanio and myself.	
So fare you well till we shall meet again.	40

- 6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Portia in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

- (b) In this extract, Portia demonstrates her trust in Lorenzo by asking him to look after her home.

Explain the importance of trust **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- how trust is presented
- the effects trust has within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS

The Merchant of Venice – from Act 1 Scene 3, lines 101 to 136

In this extract, Shylock is reminding Antonio how badly the merchant has treated him in the past.

SHYLOCK

Signior Antonio, many a time and oft
In the Rialto you have rated me
About my moneys and my usances.
Still have I borne it with a patient shrug,
For sufferance is the badge of all our tribe. 105
You call me misbeliever, cut-throat dog,
And spit upon my Jewish gaberdine –
And all for use of that which is mine own.
Well then, it now appears you need my help.
Go to, then – you come to me, and you say, 110
'Shylock, we would have moneys.' – You say so –
You that did void your rheum upon my beard,
And foot me as you spurn a stranger cur
Over your threshold – moneys is your suit.
What should I say to you? Should I not say 115
'Hath a dog money? Is it possible
A cur can lend three thousand ducats?' – Or
Shall I bend low, and in a bondman's key,
With bated breath and whisp'ring humbleness
Say this: 120
'Fair sir, you spat on me on Wednesday last –
You spurned me such a day – another time
You called me dog – and for these courtesies
I'll lend you thus much moneys'?

ANTONIO

I am as like to call thee so again – 125
To spit on thee again, to spurn thee too.
If thou wilt lend this money, lend it not
As to thy friends – for when did friendship take
A breed for barren metal of his friend?
But lend it rather to thine enemy – 130
Who if he break, thou mayst with better face
Exact the penalty.

SHYLOCK

Why, look you how you storm!
I would be friends with you, and have your love,
Forget the shames that you have stained me with,
Supply your present wants, and take no doit 135
Of usance for my moneys, and you'll not hear me.



- 6 (a) Explore how Shakespeare presents the character of Shylock in this extract.

Refer closely to the extract in your answer.

(20)

- (b) In this extract, Shylock explains how he is prepared to be friends with Antonio.

Explain the importance of friendship **elsewhere** in the play.

In your answer, you **must** consider:

- where friendship is shown
- the effect of friendship within the play.

You **must** refer to the context of the play in your answer.

(20)

(Total for Question 6 = 40 marks)

TOTAL FOR SECTION A = 40 MARKS