

Sam<sup>\*</sup>

12/6/05  
Mr. Bristol

H.W #2: Questions for Close Reading: 2

1. Rodrigo threatens to kill himself.
2. "Have we a prescription to die when death is our physician."
3. Iago is 28 years old.
4. Guinea hen, baboon.
5. Iago sees his body as a garden that only he takes care of. He believes that only we can make who we are.
6. Iago is pleading for Rodrigo not to kill himself. I think this makes him a better person, because his evil ways may be actually "helping" Rodrigo.
7. I think that "put money in thy purse means to treat oneself."
- 8.

Sami\*

11/4/05

Mr. Bristol

H.W. 1.3 Journal Entry

The Duke begins to talk to the senators about the Turkish fleet. The sailor joins them, along with an officer and a messenger. They figure out who the fleet wants to hit, Cyprus. Othello was accused of witchery. Brabantio claims that he used black magic on Desdemona. Othello is taken to court and Brabantio was asked to find evidence. This reminds me very much of the Salem witch trials. I believe that these people know very well that witchery does not exist. But they use things like this and the use of the word God to get the reaction that they want from the people. Iago is very smart. He uses what others want to help get what he wants (the spot as lieutenant). Persuading

Prodenigo to sell of his lands  
was brilliant. Now the plot  
thickens, because Othello still  
does not know what Iago is up to  
and Desdemona pretty much does not  
know anything.

Sam<sup>\*</sup>

12-9-05

Mr. Bristol

HW: 2.1: Journal Entry:

Iago is very smart. I think that he has to be very intelligent to have made up such a complex plan. And so far it seems to be working out. Iago is seen as a mastermind in # 2.1 of the play. After reading it I can see that he will work until he gets what he wants. Some of the characters seem to have put some of their trust in Iago. Bad idea. This is what he uses to manipulate them into doing what he wants. I just want to know if any one really knows what Iago is up to. He is human so there must be some kind of mistakes. Made in the process. I am almost positive that he has left something behind. Since Othello is most likely going to die in the play I would like to figure out if he does before

or after Iago's real mission is revealed.

Sam<sup>\*</sup>

12-13-05

Mr. Bristol

HW: 2.3 Journal Entry: 7

Othello seems clueless to me. He does not realize what Iago is up to. No one does! Things just seem to be going his way, especially after the incident with Cassio. Cassio was manipulated by Iago, but not as easily as Roderigo was. He was intoxicated. Montano ends up being wounded because of this too.

The fight started off with Roderigo and then it escalated into a "draw" with Montano.

Iago's main ingredient is to always seem helpful. He always seems to be "helping" someone when he places them into his masterplan.

In act two scene 3 Iago "advises" Cassio to ask Desdemona for help so that he can be reinstated. The summary states Iago's next step, but I could already see this coming. This situation happens in real life all

the time in real life. The best way to separate a couple is by turning them against each other. Once Desdemona and Othello hate each other the relationship would be over.

Sam  
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12-15-05

Mr. Bristol

H.W. 3.1 Journal Entry

\*What is the role of the clown?

Obviously, Cassio wants to set a good mood for Desdemona and Othello to get his position back.

The clown is the one who gets rid of the musicians. This is when Cassio asks the clown to do the favor for him. I believe that the clown is just a symbol.

A symbol being funny and having to do with logic. Because it is funny how logic changes the lives of people and then "helps them." Clowns are silly, so maybe Shakespeare is trying to show how silly it is that Cassio is doing this. If that is true then it is very ironic that he is getting the clown to do the job too.



Soni \*

12-17-05

Mr. Bristol

H.W. 3.3 Journal Entry: 2

After reading act three scene three I must say that I am terribly confused. I was convinced since the beginning of the play that Othello (being the hero and the "good guy") would end up being killed or dying in the end. Now he is talking about killing Desdemona, and I understand he is upset, but if anything I thought that Othello would want to murder Cassio. This is all "his fault", as far as he knows.

Now ~~the~~ Desdemona is the only "good person" in the play.

She is easily moved by Cassio, but it is too late because Othello has talked to Iago and given him back the leutenancy.

Using Desdemona's handkerchief was a very smart move, but it was very convenient. What if

Desdemona hadn't dropped  
her handkerchief? Then what  
kind of proof would Iago  
have had to show Othello?

Sam<sup>\*</sup>

12-19-05  
Mr. Bristol

H.W: 3.2 metrical scheme: ~

Othello:

These letters give, Iago, to the pilot  
And by him do my duties to the Senate.  
That done, I will be walking  
On the works;

Iago: Well, my good lord, I'll do't.

Othello

This fortification, gentlemen, shall we see't?

Gentlemen:

<We> wait upon your lordship.

Sonn\*

1/4/06  
Mr. Froner

H.W: 4.1 Journal Entry: ↓

\* Othello is starting to remind me of Oedipus. He went from a role model figure to angry and confused. He is now a walking time bomb. He has already struck Desdemona so I would not be surprised if he killed her later in the play. What I don't understand is why Iago's plan still has no flaws. Things keep continuing to work on his behalf. Usually by now someone (other than the clown) would see the true Iago. Othello will probably realize this when it is too late. Now that Iago has the lieutenantcy he is more powerful than ever.

1/4/06

HW: 4.2 Journal Entry:

\* Iago's plan has become confusing. He is now trying to kill Cassio using Rodenigo, but I thought this is what Othello was going to do. There is no hope for Desdemona now that Othello sees her as a whore. He is going to talk with Emilia and it seems like for the first time in a while he is using his head. This is still too late because though he is asking questions, he is basing them off of the fact that Desdemona has already cheated on him.

Soni\*

1/5/00  
Mr. Bristol

H.W: 4.3 Journal Entry: 2

\* This scene makes Desdemona seem even more innocent, almost like she is not in touch with reality. Emilia is trying to open up her mind now that Othello is treating her so terribly but she is refusing to listen. He has begun to treat her almost like a pimp himself.

Desdemona seems confused and helpless in this situation. Even though her friend is trying to help her. No one has caught on to Iago's plan as of yet.

Desdemona foreshadows her death.