

Othello - Act II, i

In Act II, I, we find our cast on the isle of Cyprus with very little to do. While they had initially gone to fight the Turks (a racially and culturally different enemy), it is no longer necessary. The Turkish fleet has been destroyed by storms. With all of this free time Iago begins to put his plans into motion.

1. Head to line 165 and check out Iago's speech. First, translate the speech into more modern language in the space below.

2. Now check out his one-sided conversation with Roderigo beginning on line 219. This one's a little trickier to put your finger on. Here's a hint: He's talking about Othello to begin, then transitions to Cassio and his knavery. In the space below, offer up a translation.

3. Iago's final soliloquy is perhaps his most devilish.

- What does he say he wants to do with Desdemona? Why?
- What does he say he wants to do to Cassio?
- Why will Othello thank Iago if the plan goes well?