



**You do me mischief. Fie, Demetrius! Your wrongs do set a scandal on my sex: We cannot fight for love, as men may do; We should be wood and were not made to woo.**

**Introduction**

Over the last month or so you have read, watched, and acted out two of Shakespeare’s best known comedies, *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *Taming of the Shrew*. In each, Shakespeare writes extensively about couples who are in love, falling in love, or managing to fall out of love with each other. However, the plays are about much more than simply love; each focus’ on the ways that men and women interact with each other, how men and women behave, and on how they respond to one another. Naturally, scholars have written for centuries about the dynamics between men and women in Shakespeare, and now you will, too.

**The Prompt**

In an essay of **at least 5 paragraphs** please discuss whether or not you believe that Shakespeare treats men and women fairly. For example, does he stereotype men? Does he stereotype women? Is one sex subject to objectification more than the other? In your analysis, be sure to discuss characters from each of the plays that we have read to support your thesis.

**The Requirements**

- An introduction with a hook, information to set the scene (context), and a clear thesis.
- Body paragraphs with clear topic sentences, at least one passage from the text, and commentary that relates the passage to the thesis clearly.
  - Each passage must be smoothly integrated into the paragraph. No orphaned quotes!
- A conclusion that summarizes the paper’s argument and ends by leaving the reader with something to think about.

**My thesis is:**

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Teacher Signature

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Student Signature