

Learning objective: What do we know about Shakespeare? An introduction to the start of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Starter:

Explain that we are going to start a new topic – Shakespeare. What do students know? What do they think they know? What would they like to know?

Introduction:

In groups students decide on their answers to the above and then come back together to discuss.

Keep notes on board of what we know; what we think we know and what we want to know.

Development:

Now explain that we will find the answers to these questions in the next few lessons but for now we are going to do a short writing task.

Each student be given a letter between A and E.

Read out the following information (without reading out the characters' names):

A (Egeus) is father to B (Hermia). A wants B to marry C (Demetrius) but B loves D (Lysander). E (Helena), who is friend with B, loves C and is angry that B will probably marry C. A is insisting that B marry C and not D and has even gone to E (Theseus) to insist that the marriage goes ahead. B and D consider running away to solve their problems.

Write a letter to an agony aunt outlining the situation as you see it and requesting help.

Plenary:

Students read out their letters.