

Much Ado About Nothing

Focus: the characters of Beatrice and Benedick; Hero and Claudio audio

- ✓ Act 1
- ✓ Act 2, scenes 1, 2 & 3
- ✓ Act 3, scene 1 & 2
- ✓ Act 4, scene 1
- ✓ Act 5, scene 4

Focus: the characters of Beatrice and Benedick; Hero and Claudio

**Would Beatrice really make
“an excellent wife for Benedick?”**

1. In pairs, consider the events so far. Make a list of as many serious reasons as you can for agreeing with Don Pedro.

2. Leonato replies:

*“O Lord, my lord, if they were but a week married,
they would talk themselves dead.”*

What does he think of the match?

3. Would Beatrice really make “an excellent wife for Benedick?” What do you think? Try to link this to your ideas on the different types of love and provide evidence from the text.

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How is Benedick fooled by Don Pedro and the others?

Benedick begins this scene on his own, musing about men like Claudio who fall in love. His thoughts then turn to what qualities he would desire in a future wife.

1. What qualities would Benedick want in a wife?
2. Benedick explains why he believes what he is hearing, what is his reason?
3. According to the group, how has Beatrice been *affected* by her love for Benedick?
4. What do the group fear Benedick will do if he finds out?
5. How does Benedick's attitude to Beatrice change?

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How is Beatrice fooled by Hero and Ursula?

1. In pairs, read Act 3, scene 1.
2. What is Hero's strategy for fooling Beatrice?
3. What criticisms do they make of Beatrice?
4. What do they say about Benedick?
5. How has Beatrice's attitude changed at the end of the scene?
6. Compare this scene with the fooling of Benedick. What are the similarities and differences? (give reasons why these exist)

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**Record your ideas about Beatrice and Benedick and
their relationship**

Beatrice & Benedick

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