

**Good and bad news**

The events below are all from Act 3, Scene 2: look through them and decide which order they go in.

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|---|---|
| A | Bassanio considers, and rejects, the gold casket.   |
| B | Portia confirms that Bassanio has chosen the right casket.  |
| C | Bassanio is not to be persuaded: he says he will feel tortured until he has chosen.   |
| D | Portia is exhilarated as she realises Bassanio is going to choose the right casket.   |
| E | Bassanio considers, and rejects, the lead casket.   |
| F | Jessica says that her father said he would rather have Antonio's flesh than twenty times the value of the owed money.   |
| G | Portia tries to persuade Bassanio not to choose which casket to open for a few days at least.   |
| H | Bassanio reads a letter from Antonio which states that he has lost all his ships.   |
| I | A song is sung whilst Bassanio is thinking about which casket to open. There has been debate that the song is meant as a hint to Bassanio as the first three end words all rhyme with 'lead'. |
| J | Bassanio considers, and rejects, the silver casket.   |
| K | Nerissa congratulates the couple.   |
| L | Gratiano explains that he has fallen in love with Nerissa.  |
| M | Bassanio considers, and chooses, the lead casket.   |
| N | Portia tells Bassanio he must marry her and then go to his friend's aid.  |
| O | Bassanio reads out what is written on the scroll and thinks he has chosen correctly but waits until Portia confirms it before he will truly believe it.                                       |
| P | Portia offers to pay back the money to Shylock for Antonio.   |
| Q | Lorenzo, Jessica and Salerio arrive.  |
| R | Nerissa confirms that Gratiano speaks the truth about their love.   |
| S | After hearing Antonio's pleas to Bassanio in the letter, Portia tells Bassanio to leave immediately in order to go to his friend's aid.   |
| T | Gratiano congratulates the couple and asks permission to be married too.  |
| U | Salerio confirms that Antonio has lost everything and says that even if Antonio did have the money to repay Shylock he would not take it as he wants his bond.                                |

### Plotting the mood

Now you have decided on the order of events in the scene, discuss the moments of tension that occur and plot the statements on the graph below:

