

**A summary of the play**

**Act 1 Sc1**

Antonio is sad but seems unable to explain why he feels this way. His friend, Bassanio, asks him for a loan in order to woo Portia at Belmont. Antonio is unable to loan the money because all his capital is in ships which are at sea but he suggests to Bassanio that he secure the money from one of the city's money lenders and use Antonio's name as a guarantor.

**Act 1 Sc 2**

