

A Midsummer Night's Dream

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

A Before Reading

- 1 Who was William Shakespeare? What do you know about him? Do you know any of his famous plays? Have you seen any of his plays? What country was he from? What century did he live in?
- 2 Below in the word maze are the names of seven other famous stories by William Shakespeare. Try to find them. The names run across or down.

T	Y	E	T	W	E	L	F	T	H	N	I	G	H	T
R	H	G	H	R	A	O	E	H	T	E	N	A	A	E
G	N	M	E	F	D	L	E	E	G	R	B	R	M	R
H	B	Y	M	T	R	K	R	T	F	T	T	O	L	T
T	F	B	E	H	G	I	D	A	C	F	H	M	E	S
J	R	R	R	T	T	U	F	M	A	C	B	E	T	H
U	E	F	C	F	H	H	R	I	T	E	T	O	A	A
K	D	T	H	D	T	Y	E	N	E	W	R	A	S	E
I	S	H	A	E	T	G	T	G	E	E	E	N	D	R
L	A	U	N	E	H	T	T	O	T	A	D	D	E	G
O	W	J	T	R	U	F	I	F	E	S	D	J	R	T
P	S	I	O	R	J	R	N	T	R	R	E	U	F	H
S	E	I	F	E	N	D	G	H	T	T	R	L	T	Y
S	E	K	V	D	M	E	W	E	S	R	T	I	H	J
E	R	O	E	E	C	S	H	S	A	E	T	E	Y	K
R	E	O	N	W	D	E	A	H	E	T	R	T	U	U
E	F	P	I	S	E	E	T	R	R	I	F	N	I	L
T	B	L	C	A	O	T	H	E	L	L	O	I	I	O
D	G	P	E	Z	E	E	O	W	I	C	B	N	N	T

H _ _ _ _ _

T _ _ _ _ _

M _ _ _ _ _

T _ _ _ _ _

O _ _ _ _ _

T _ _ _ _ _

R _ _ _ _ _

B While Reading

3 *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a story about love. Below are some of the main characters from the play. Who did each person love? Did their feelings change during the story? Why? Fill in the table below.

Character	Who did they love?	How and why did their feelings change?
Demetrius		
Helena		
Oberon		
Titania		
Hermia		
Lysander		

4 Below are eight adjectives that you might use to describe some of the people in the play. Match the adjective with the definition.

cruel	Being stupid and doing things likely to have a bad result
mischievous	Being clever and tricky
proud	Enjoying causing pain to other people or animals
confused	Feeling pleasure about something you own or have done
foolish	Feeling angry or bitter about someone who has something you want
selfish	Making trouble and doing naughty things without hurting anyone
jealous	Only caring about yourself and no-one else
cunning	Unable to understand something or think clearly about it

5 Match the adjectives from the exercise above with the characters pictured below. There may be more than one adjective for each character. Give reasons for your choice. Then think of another six adjectives that describes each character.



_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

C After Reading

- 6 Read the original text in the grey shaded boxes again. This is the English that Shakespeare wrote. Do you like it? Is it like poetry? Is it more difficult to understand? How has the English language changed since then?
- 7 Love is a very powerful emotion. In this story, some of the characters are prepared to kill themselves or someone else for love. Some would run away from their family and friends for love. Would you do any of these things? Have you done any strange things for love?
- 8 This is a famous love story. Can you think of any other famous love stories, perhaps film or books? Imagine you are making a film of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Which Hollywood actors would you choose for each of the main roles? Why did you choose them?