**A Merry War of Insults** Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Much Ado About Nothing* (Act 1 Scene 1) World Literature

**Directions:** Review the exchange between Beatrice and Benedick. Rewrite each character’s dialogue into your own words. Be sure to refer to the side notes in the book—on the left page—I have underlined these for you to look on left page. This excerpt is located on pages 11-13.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **BEATRICE**  I wonder that you will still be talking, Signor Benedick: nobody marks you.  **BENEDICK**  What, my dear Lady Disdain! are you yet living?  **BEATRICE**  Is it possible disdain should die while she hath such meet food to feed it as Signor Benedick? Courtesy itself must convert to disdain, if you come in her presence.  **BENEDICK**  Then is courtesy a turncoat. But it is certain I am loved of all ladies, only you excepted: and I would I could find in my heart that I had not a hard heart; for, truly, I love none.  **BEATRICE**  A dear happiness to women: they would else have been troubled with a pernicious suitor. I thank God and my cold blood, I am of your humour for that: I had rather hear my dog bark at a crow than a man swear he loves me.  **BENEDICK**  God keep your ladyship still in that mind! so some gentleman or other shall 'scape a predestinate scratched face.  **BEATRICE**  Scratching could not make it worse, an 'twere such a face as yours were.  **BENEDICK**  Well, you are a rare parrot-teacher.  **BEATRICE**  A bird of my tongue is better than a beast of yours.  **BENEDICK**  I would my horse had the speed of your tongue, and so good a continuer. But keep your way, i' God's name; I have done.  **BEATRICE**  You always end with a jade's trick: I know you of old. |  |

**What can you conclude about Beatrice and Benedick’s relationship?**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***YOUR TURN!***  On the right are a collection of words found in Shakespeare’s plays that he often used (alone or in combination). Review the words; then choose one word from each column to create interesting combinations of insults. Start each insult with “Thou art a(n)…” Be prepared to share some of your results with the class.  *Note: For this step, it’s okay if you’re not quite sure what the words mean; having fun creating combinations based on the sounds of the words.*   1. **Thou art a(n)…** 2. **Thou art a(n)…** 3. **Thou art a(n)…**   ***TONIGHT***  Go to the website ShakespearesWords.com. Use the search field on this website to look up and translate the insults you created during class. What did your insults mean? | **Adjectives** | **Compound-Adjectives** | **Nouns** |
| **artless**  **bawdy**  **beslubbering**  **bootless**  **burly-boned**  **calumnious**  **churlish**  **cockered**  **clouted**  **craven**  **culliony**  **currish**  **dankish**  **dissembling**  **droning**  **errant**  **fawning**  **fishified**  **fobbing**  **frothy**  **fusty**  **gleeking**  **goatish**  **gorbeillied**  **impertinent**  **infectious**  **jarring**  **loggerheaded**  **lumpish**  **mammering**  **mangled**  **misbegotten**  **mewling**  **odiferous**  **paunchy**  **poisonous**  **pribbling**  **puking**  **puny**  **qualling**  **rampallian**  **rank**  **reeky**  **roguish**  **ruttish**  **saucy**  **spleeny**  **spongy**  **surly**  **tottering**  **unmuzzled**  **unwash’d**  **venomed**  **villainous**  **warped**  **wart-necked**  **wayward**  **weedy**  **whoreson** | **base-court**  **bat-fowling**  **beef-witted**  **beetle-headed**  **boil-brained**  **brazen-faced**  **bunch-back’d**  **clapper-clawed**  **clay-brained**  **common-kissing**  **crook-pated**  **dismal-dreaming**  **dizzy-eyed**  **doghearted**  **dread-bolted**  **earth-vexing**  **elf-skinned**  **fat-kidneyed**  **fen-sucked**  **flap-mouthed**  **fly-bitten**  **folly-fallen**  **fool-born**  **full-gorged**  **guts-griping**  **half-faced**  **hasty-witted**  **hedge-born**  **hell-hated**  **idle-headed**  **ill-breeding**  **ill-nurtured**  **knotty-pated**  **leaden-footed**  **lily-livered**  **malmsey-nosed**  **milk-livered**  **motley-minded**  **muddy-mettled**  **onion-eyed**  **pigeon-liver’d**  **plume-plucked**  **pottle-deep**  **pox-marked**  **reeling-ripe**  **rough-hewn**  **rude-growing**  **rump-fed**  **scale-sided**  **scurvy-valiant**  **shard-borne**  **sheep-biting**  **spur-galled**  **swag-bellied**  **tardy-gaited**  **tickle-brained**  **toad-spotted**  **urchin-snouted**  **weather-bitten** | **apple-john**  **baggage**  **barnacle**  **basket-cockle**  **bladder**  **blind-worm**  **boar-pig**  **braggart**  **bugbear**  **canker-blossom**  **clotpole**  **coxcomb**  **codpiece**  **cur**  **death-token**  **devil-monk**  **dewberry**  **flap-dragon**  **flax-wench**  **filrt-gil**  **foot-licker**  **fustilarian**  **giglet**  **gudgeon**  **haggard**  **harpy**  **hedge-pig**  **horn-beast**  **hugger-mugger**  **jolt-head**  **lewdster**  **lout**  **malcontent**  **maggot-pie**  **malt-worm**  **mammet**  **measle**  **minnow**  **miscreant**  **mouldwarp**  **mumble-news**  **nut-hook**  **pigeon-egg**  **pignut**  **popinjay**  **puttock**  **pumpion**  **rascal**  **ratsbane**  **scullion**  **scut**  **skainsmate**  **strumpet**  **toad**  **varlot**  **vassal**  **whey-face**  **wagtail**  **yoke-devil** |

**Does (s)he like-*like* me?** Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Much Ado About Nothing* World Literature

Imagine that you are an advice columnist for the school newspaper. You receive the following two emails in your inbox but can only reply to one at the moment. ***Choose ONE*** and write your reply in the space below.

TO: SPOKE Newspaper

FROM: Desperately in Love

DATE: November 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Help!

Hello!

There is a girl that I’ve had my eye on for a while, but I’m not sure what to do to get her to notice me. In fact, I would love if she could be my girlfriend. At the end of last school year, we spent a little bit of time getting to know each other, but unfortunately, I was away travelling all summer with my family, so I haven’t seen or talked to her much in the last few months. Now it’s the beginning of the school year, and I’m afraid she’s forgotten all about me. I don’t even know if she likes me! Please help!

Sincerely,

H. aka

Desperately in love

TO: SPOKE Newspaper

FROM: Absolutely Annoyed

DATE: November 19, 2013

SUBJECT: Help!

Dear Spoke Columnist,

I need your help. There is a boy in my English class who annoys me to no end! I don’t understand it! Every time I say something in class, like when I’m answering a question or just talking to a friend, he just *has* to interrupt and say something sarcastic. I think he’s trying to be funny, and the truth is, I sometimes tease him right back. But it’s been getting on my nerves more and more lately, and I’m not sure what to do!

Help?

Sincerely,

B. aka

Absolutely Annoyed

Dear \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Send a text message from Beatrice to Hero (or Benedick to Don Pedro) explaining what it is you desire in an ideal mate.   
For hints on what to write, see **Beatrice’s description at the beginning of Act 2** and **Benedick’s soliloquy at the beginning of Act 2. 3.**

Remember, no more than 140 characters:

Now, create a string of text messages between Claudio and Don Pedro after the masquerade has ended. Be sure Claudio apologizes for assuming Pedro was taking Hero away from him. Use text-speak. Have at least 4 entries for both characters.