



## **Activities: Key Stage 4**

### **First interview with Benjamin Mansfield playing Benedick**

- 1) Find the Week 1 audio interview with Benjamin Mansfield who is playing Benedick. Benjamin describes Benedick (time code 6m 02s to 6m 30s) as a character who is rather like a puppy at the start of the play but by the end he has changed.
- 2) Work with a group of fellow students. Discuss Benjamin's ideas about the character of Benedick. Decide whether you think 'puppyish' is the right simile for Benedick at the start of the play or whether you would suggest a less positive way to think of his behaviour.
- 3) Identify the ways in which Benedick changes into what Benjamin says is a 'very nice person' by the end of the play. Decide whether you think the changes are permanent or whether you feel he might revert to his earlier behaviour after he is married.
- 4) One student should take the role of Benedick and the other members of the group should ask him questions about his planned marriage as if it was a marriage-guidance meeting. The questioning should try to find out whether he really has changed for the better.