



Activities: Key Stage 4 Week 4 Blog

- 1) Find the Week 4 blog by the assistant director of the play Tom Davey. In the blog Tom discusses the way the actors expect the audience of young people to take sides so that they are for or against different characters.
- 2) Work with a group of fellow students. Discuss the characters in the play and decide which ones you would expect an audience to support and which they are likely to be against.
- 3) Because this is a play by Shakespeare there are ambiguities in the way some of the characters will be viewed. For instance Donna Joan's behaviour may be excused by her outsider situation. In the case of Hero, sympathy for her may be offset when she accepts Claudio at the end of the play despite the terrible things he said to her in the abandoned wedding.
- 4) Work through the characters and explore any changes in the way they are viewed, documenting this in a chart.
- 5) Benedick is a case where an audience may change their view of him as the play goes on. Similarly, Leonato and Borachio are characters where judgements are likely to alter as the events unfold.
- 6) Share your findings with other groups.