

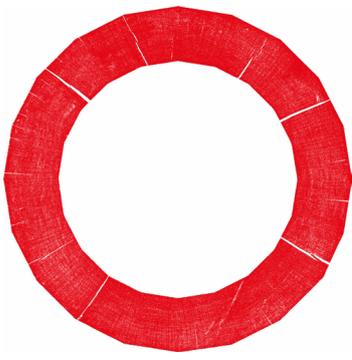
## Activities: Key Stage 4&5

### Week 2 Blog - Page 1 of 2

1) Find the Week 2 blog by the assistant director of the play Tom Davey. In his second blog Tom describes some of the visits he has made to meet school students who are going to see the Globe production of Much Ado About Nothing.

2) Work in a pair or group. Each pair or group should then work on one of the following activities to explore the points Tom makes in the article.

- In the blog Tom talks about Claudio having forgotten 'other important things' when thinking of his honour. Read Claudio's lines in the wedding scene and decide what you think Claudio has forgotten. Then decide what makes Claudio ignore Hero's protestations of her innocence.
- In the tragedy Othello, Shakespeare creates a similar situation to that of Claudio and Hero as Othello is tricked by Iago into thinking that Desdemona, his wife, has been unfaithful to him. Compare Claudio's behaviour with that of Othello and decide whether Othello has also forgotten 'important things' like Claudio. Discuss the differences between the situations in the two plays and how these differences affect the outcome. For instance, Othello is married whereas Claudio stops his marriage from taking place; Iago plants seeds of doubt about his wife in Othello's mind whereas the deception of Claudio is on one occasion.
- In the article Tom describes how the themes of honour, shame and truth resonated powerfully with students and teachers on his visits to schools. Discuss how you think instant communications can affect the impact of truth and shame in today's world.
- Towards the end of the article Tom wonders whether Hero should ever forgive Claudio. Discuss Hero's decision to forgive him and why you think she does so.



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3) Present the findings of your work to the rest of the class. Your feedback could be presented in a number of ways. For instance:

- an article for the programme;
- a chart with headings including honour, shame and truth and showing how each character is affected;
- a staged hot-seating of Claudio with questions exploring his actions;
- a poster with examples of the impact of shaming and 'fake news' from current and recent examples in the media.