Daily Bard

QUOTATION SHEET

A Midsummer Night's Dream: key quotation sheet

10 quotations worth knowing by heart, each with a plain-English reading, space for your notes, and a fill-the-gap test.



How to use this sheet

These are the 10 quotations from the A Midsummer Night's Dream study guide, set out for revision. Part one gives each quotation with a plain-English reading and space for your own notes. Part two prints them again with a word missing from each line, so that you can test yourself.

- [ ] Read the quotation aloud twice. Sound helps memory more than staring does.
- [ ] In the note space, name one method (a device, a word choice, a feature of the verse) and the effect it has.
- [ ] Add one link: to a theme, to another moment in the text, or to a point of context.
- [ ] A day later, cover part one and complete part two from memory.

Part one: the quotations

> Hippolyta, I wooed thee with my sword
> And won thy love doing thee injuries,
>
> THESEUS · ACT 1, SCENE 1

Plain English: I courted you by conquering you, and won your love by harming you.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> As she is mine, I may dispose of her,
>
> EGEUS · ACT 1, SCENE 1

Plain English: She belongs to me, so I can do what I like with her.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> The course of true love never did run smooth.
>
> LYSANDER · ACT 1, SCENE 1

Plain English: True love has always met with obstacles.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> Love looks not with the eyes but with the mind;
> And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind.
>
> HELENA · ACT 1, SCENE 1

Plain English: Love sees what the mind imagines, not what is there, which is why Cupid is shown blind.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> And this same progeny of evils comes
> From our debate, from our dissension;
> We are their parents and original.
>
> TITANIA · ACT 2, SCENE 1

Plain English: All these disasters are the offspring of our quarrel; we are their cause.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> I am your spaniel, and, Demetrius,
> The more you beat me I will fawn on you.
>
> HELENA · ACT 2, SCENE 1

Plain English: I am your dog; the worse you treat me, the more I will adore you.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> And yet, to say the truth, reason and love keep little company together nowadays.
>
> BOTTOM · ACT 3, SCENE 1

Plain English: To be honest, reason and love do not have much to do with each other these days.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> Lord, what fools these mortals be!
>
> ROBIN · ACT 3, SCENE 2

Plain English: How foolish human beings are.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
> Are of imagination all compact.
>
> THESEUS · ACT 5, SCENE 1

Plain English: Madmen, lovers and poets are all made entirely of imagination.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

> If we shadows have offended,
> Think but this and all is mended:
> That you have but slumbered here
> While these visions did appear.
>
> ROBIN · ACT 5, SCENE 1

Plain English: If our play has displeased you, pretend you were asleep and dreamed it.

Method and effect:

Links to: _____

Part two: test yourself

Fill each gap from memory, then check against part one. Mark the ones you missed and come back to them tomorrow.

> _____, I wooed thee with my sword
> And won thy love doing thee _____,
>
> THESEUS · ACT 1, SCENE 1

> As she is mine, I may _____ of her,
>
> EGEUS · ACT 1, SCENE 1

> The _____ of true love never did run smooth.
>
> LYSANDER · ACT 1, SCENE 1

> Love _____ not with the eyes but with the mind;
> And _____ is winged Cupid painted blind.
>
> HELENA · ACT 1, SCENE 1

> And this same _____ of evils comes
> From our debate, from our _____;
> We are their parents and _____.
>
> TITANIA · ACT 2, SCENE 1

> I am your spaniel, and, _____,
> The more you beat me I will fawn on you.
>
> HELENA · ACT 2, SCENE 1

> And yet, to say the truth, reason and love keep little company _____ nowadays.
>
> BOTTOM · ACT 3, SCENE 1

> Lord, what fools these _____ be!
>
> ROBIN · ACT 3, SCENE 2

> The _____, the lover, and the poet
> Are of _____ all compact.
>
> THESEUS · ACT 5, SCENE 1

If we shadows have _____,
Think but this and all is _____:
That you have but _____ here
While these _____ did appear.

ROBIN · ACT 5, SCENE 1

Next steps

Turn three of these quotations into full paragraphs with the **essay planner**, and check your method against the **close reading toolkit**. For a small daily dose of the language, **Daily Bard** shows one passage each morning with a plain-English reading on the back of the leaf.



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