# **STUDENT**'S GUIDE



**Didactic** Project

3º & 4º SECONDARY EDUCATION STAGE

# Midsummer's Night Dream



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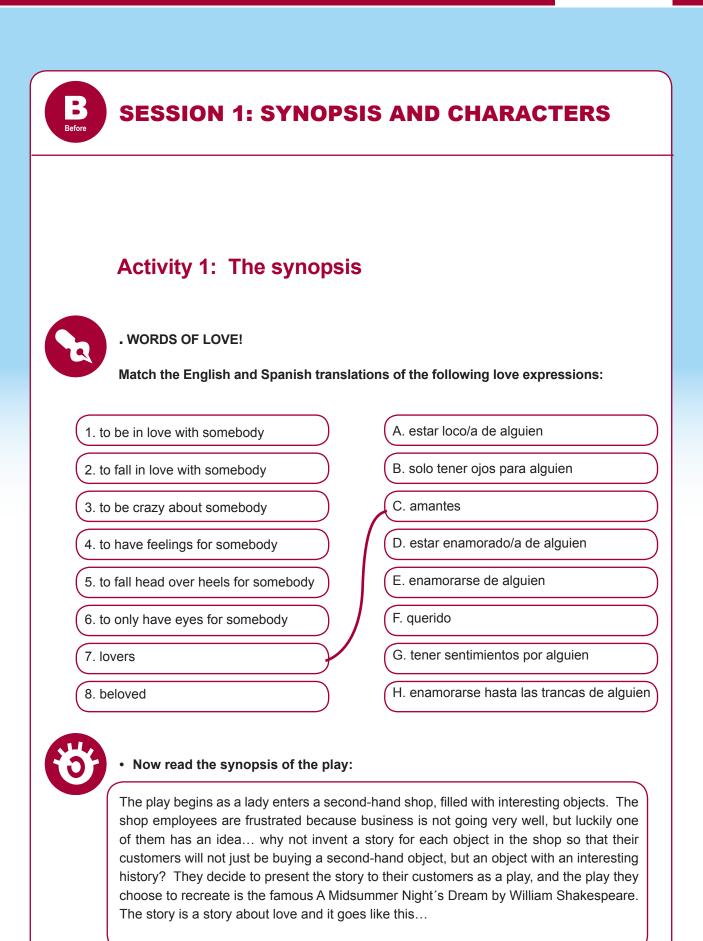
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#### AFTER THE PERFORMANCE...

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# Before

#### **SESSION 1: SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

In Athens there lives a beautiful, young, noble girl called Hermia, but she is miserable as she cannot marry the man she loves, Lysander. You see, in those times, marriage for the noble class was not about love, it was about convenience and very often your parents chose your husband or wife for you. In the case of Hermia, her father wants her to marry Demetrius whom she does not love. Demetrius, however, is crazy about Hermia. To make the situation even more complex, Demetrius'ex-girlfriend, Helena, is still in love with him but Demetrius no longer has feelings for Helena as he only has eyes for Hermia now.

Because they cannot be together, Hermia and Lysander decide to run away through the forest and find another place where they can live happily. Their plan is ruined when Helena tells Demetrius that his beloved Hermia has run away with Lysander, and so both Demetrius and Helena follow them into the forest.

The forest is a magical place inhabited by *fairies*, elves, gnomes, *goblins* and unicorns and ruled by a king and queen. The four lovers don't know it yet, but the magic of the forest is about to cause them some trouble!

The king of the forest, Oberon, is *quarrelling* with his wife, Titania. To teach her a lesson, he orders his right-hand fairy, Puck, to teach her a lesson by casting a spell over her. At the same time Oberon overhears a conversation between Helena and Demetrius... Demetrius is being very unkind to Helena, insulting her and telling her to leave him alone. So, Oberon decides to teach Demetrius a lesson too. He tells Puck to put some magic perfume on Demetrius so that he will fall madly in love with the next woman he sees... Helena.

Puck's magic spell doesn't go according to plan though! He confuses Demetrius with Lysander and puts the perfume on Lysander while he is sleeping. The first woman Lysander sees is Helena and he falls head over heels for her instantaneously. Soon, Oberon realises Puck's mistake and tries to rectify it by putting the perfume on Demetrius, who is still sleeping, as well. The first woman Demetrius sees when he awakes is Helena. So now, both Lysander and Demetrius are in love with Helena, but what will happen to poor Hermia? Will Oberon and Puck be able to reverse the spell and make Lysander fall in love with Hermia again?

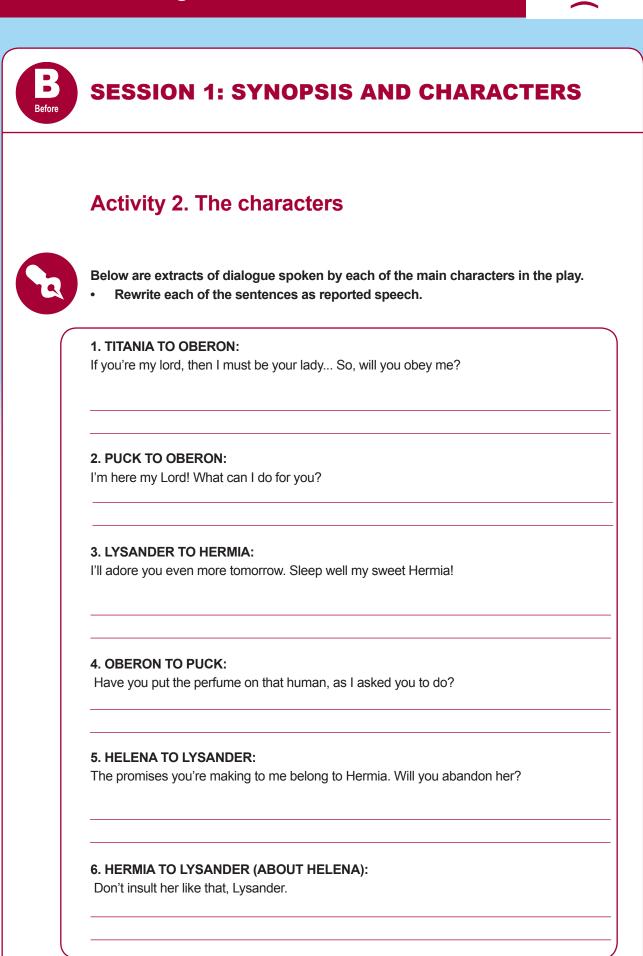
\*quarrelling – peleando

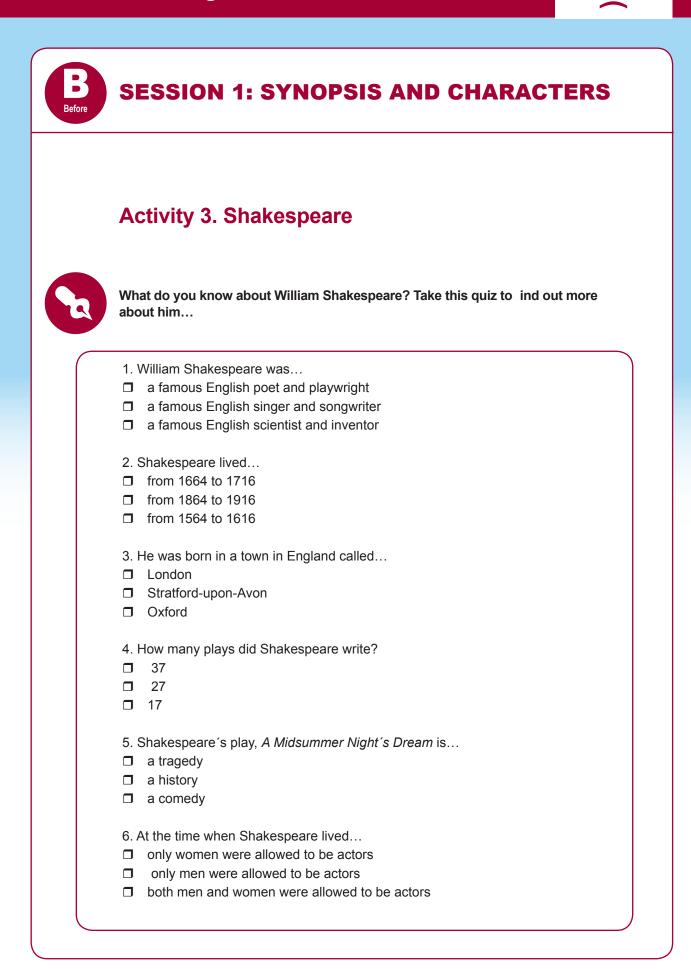
\* fairy – hada

\*goblin - duende



• **Discuss the following questions with your classmates:** Are you interested in seeing the play? Why, or why not?How do you think the play will end?





	7. How many common English words did Shakespeare invent?
	more than 170
	more than 700
	□ more than 1700
	8. What is the name of the famous theatre in London where many of Shakespeare's pla
	were performed?
	The Globe Theatre
	The World Theatre
	The Earth Theatre
	William Shakespeare is believed to have influenced the English language me than any other writer in history. He invented over 1700 common words by chang nouns into verbs, changing verbs into adjectives, connecting words never befor used together, adding prefixes and suffixes, and introducing completely original
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#### **Activity 1. Listening**



# . Listen to this extract from Scene 7 of the play (TRACK 8) and choose the correct answer to the following questions.

- 1. Who is Demetrius looking for in the forest?
- Lysander
- Helena
- Hermia

2. Why is Helena following him?

- because she is in love with him
- because she is lost
- because she wants to help him

3. Helena tells Demetrius that...

- she is his little cat
- □ she is his little bird
- □ she is his little dog

4. Demetrius wants Helena to...

- keep quiet
- leave him alone
- hide in the bushes

5. Demetrius threatens Helena that he will...

- D put a spell on her
- kill her
- run away and leave her with the wild animals in the forest

6. Helena tells Demetrius that his behaviour is...

- an insult to all humans
- an insult to all women
- an insult to all men

7. Who does Oberon think needs to learn a lesson?

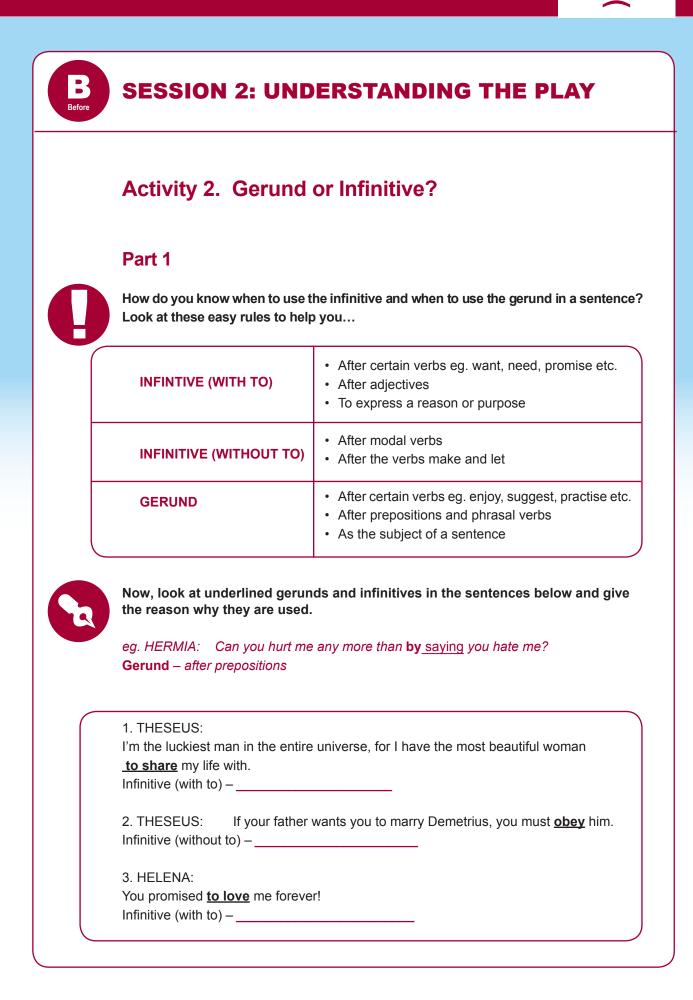
- Demetrius
- Helena
- Puck

8. What spell does Oberon cast on Titania?

- □ She will never wake up
- □ She will fall in love with the first thing she sees when she wakes up
- □ She will love Oberon more than before



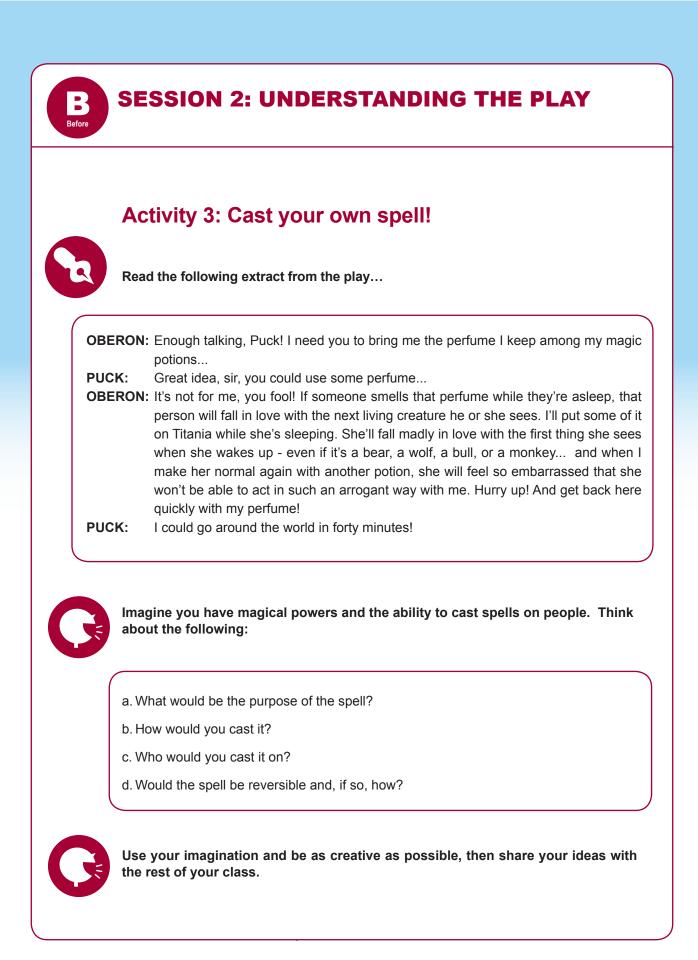
8



4. HELENA: Yes, but that makes me <u>love</u> you even more. Infinitive (without to) –
5. HELENA: Just let me <b>follow</b> behind you, even though I'm not good enough for you Infinitive (without to) –
6. DEMETRIUS: Don't push it. Just <b>looking</b> at you makes me sick. Gerund –
7. OBERON: Do it carefully, so that he'll end up <b>loving</b> her more than she loves h Gerund –
8. HELENA: Is it not enough, young man, that I'll never be pretty enough <u>to have</u> the love of Demetriu Infinitive (with to) –
9.HELENA: Do you want to destroy our old friendship by <b>joining</b> these men in <b>insulting</b> your poor frier Gerund –
10. LYSANDER: If that's what you say, fight a duel with me <u>to prove</u> it. Infinitive (with to) –
Dart 2
<ul><li>Part 2</li><li>Complete the following sentences using the words in brackets in the correct</li></ul>

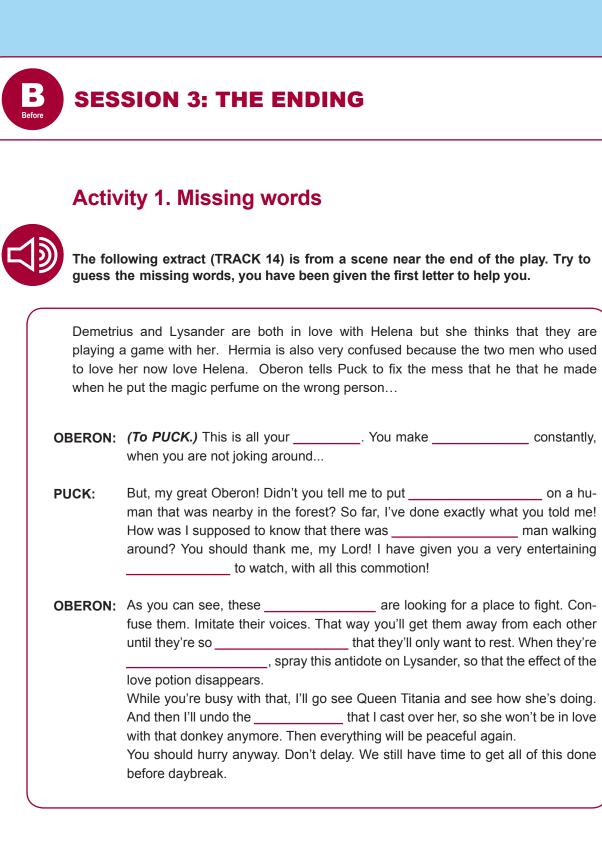
 4. A Midsummer Night's Dream is a play about \_\_\_\_\_\_ for love. (fight)

5. \_\_\_\_\_\_ peace and order in the forest is Oberon's duty as king. (maintain)

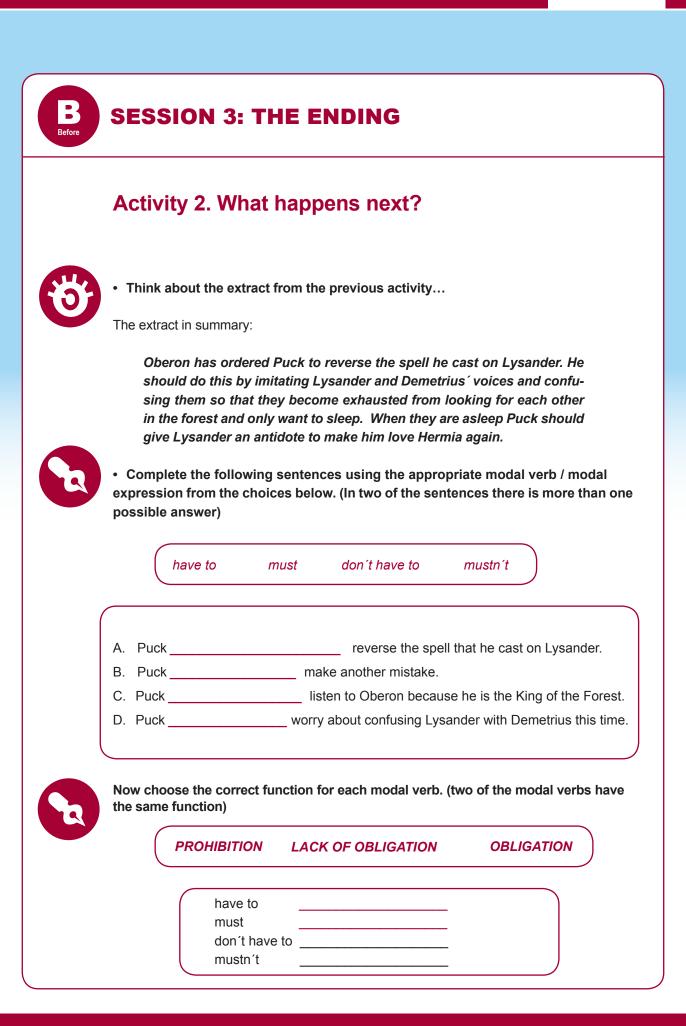


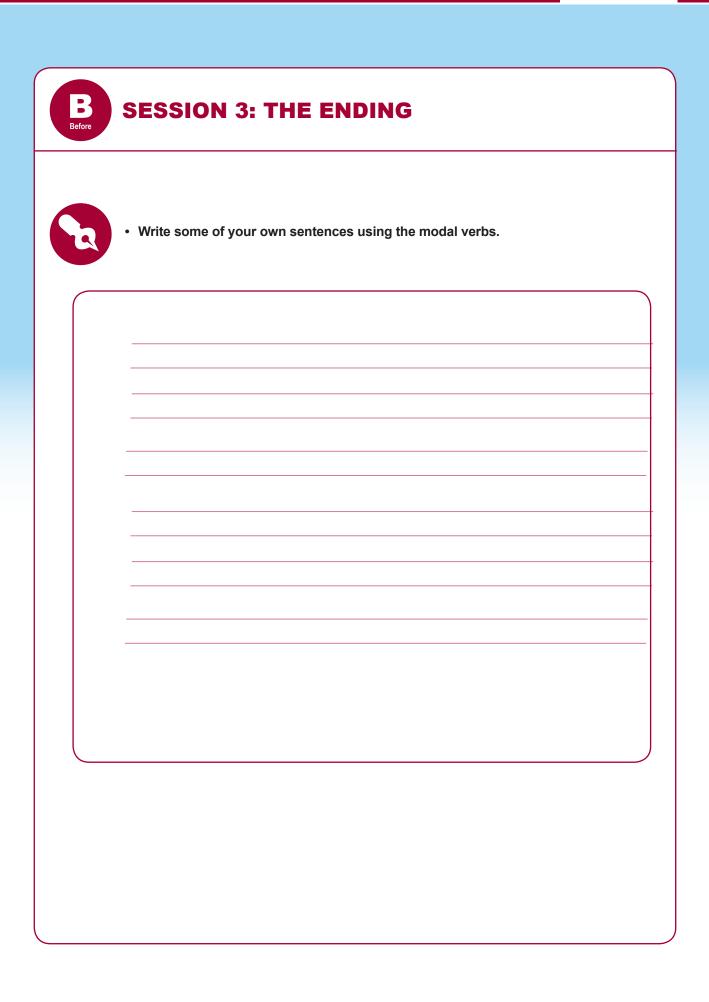
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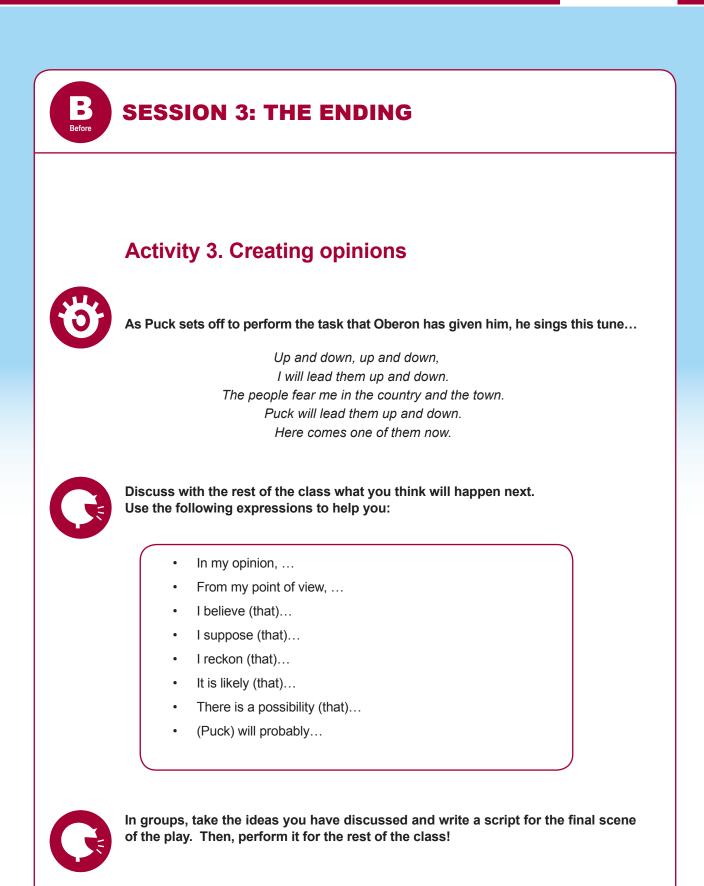


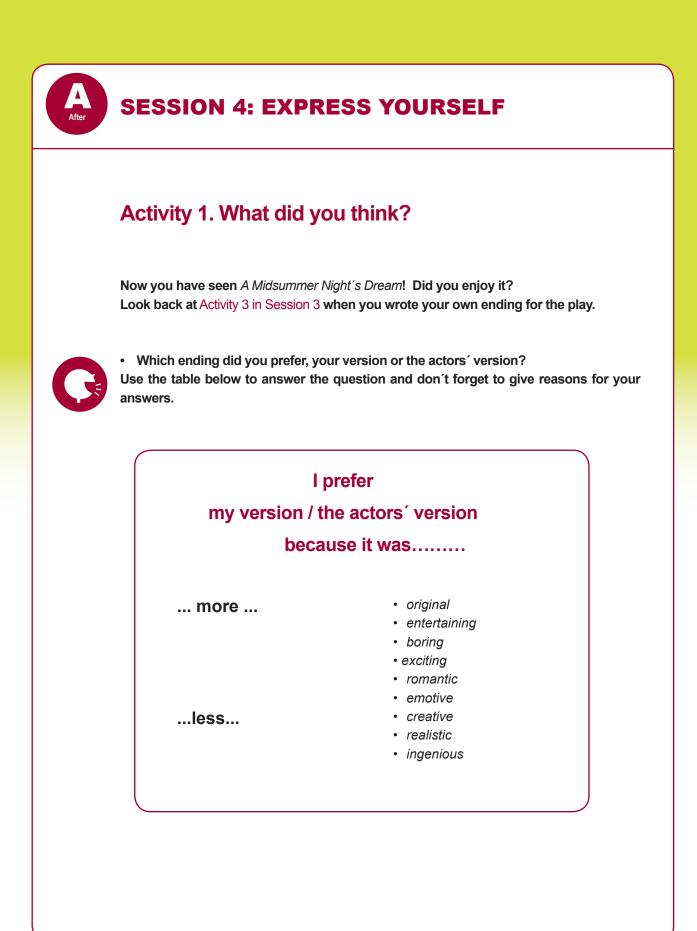
Now listen to the extract and check your answers.

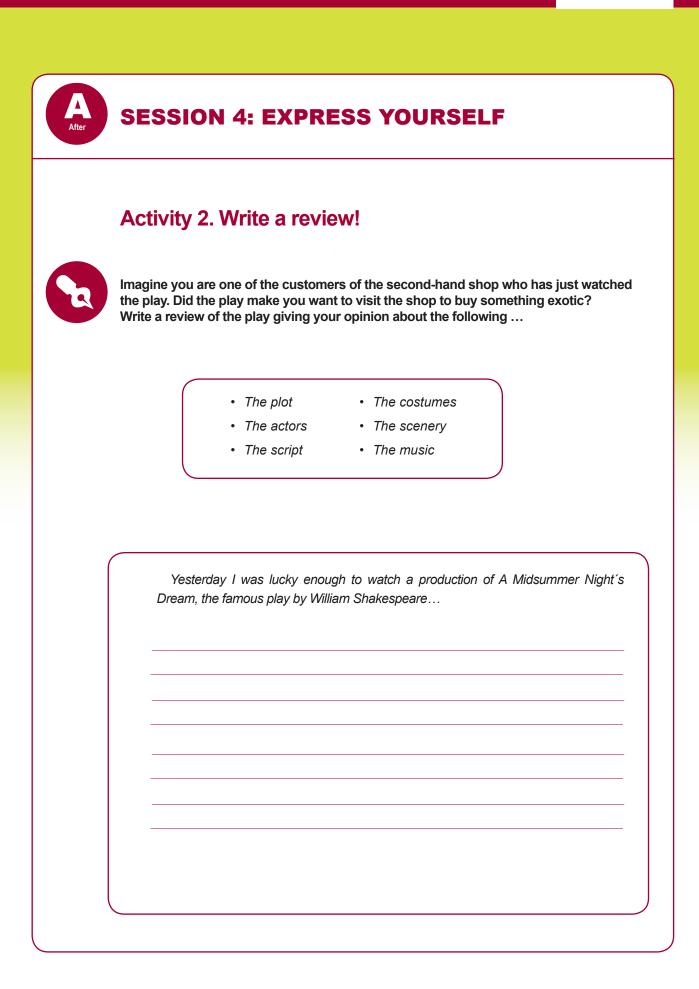


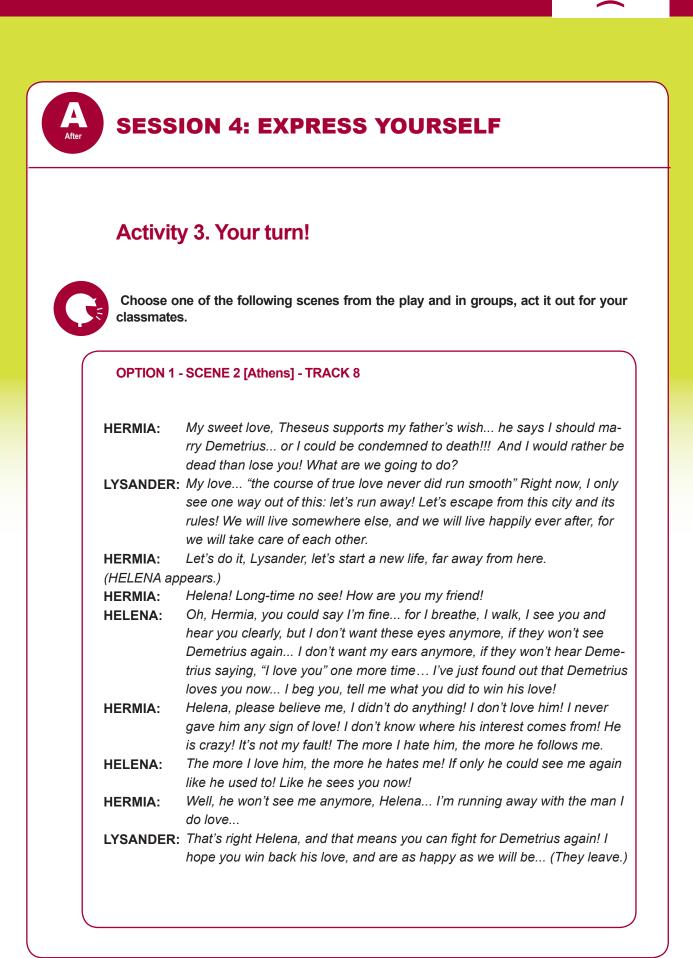


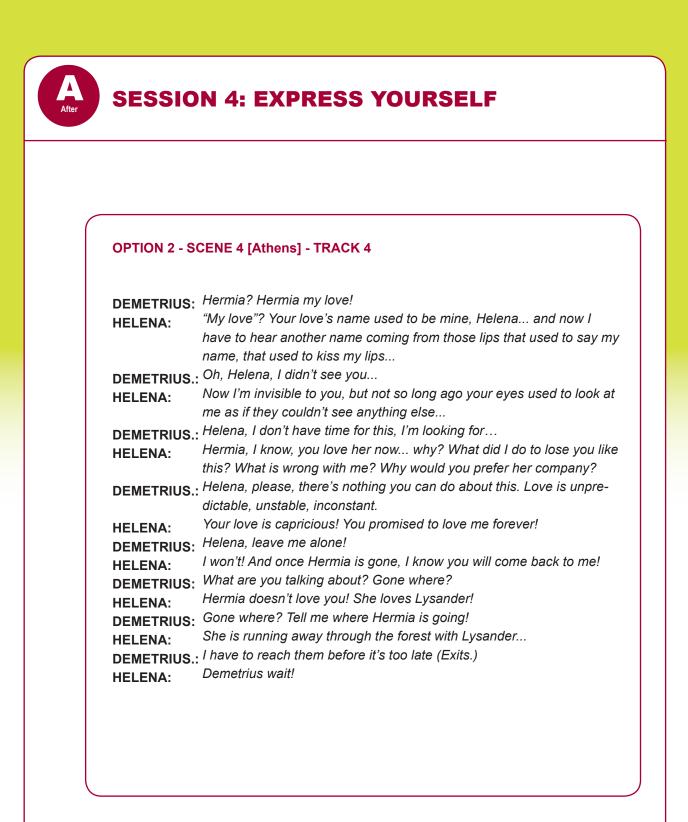


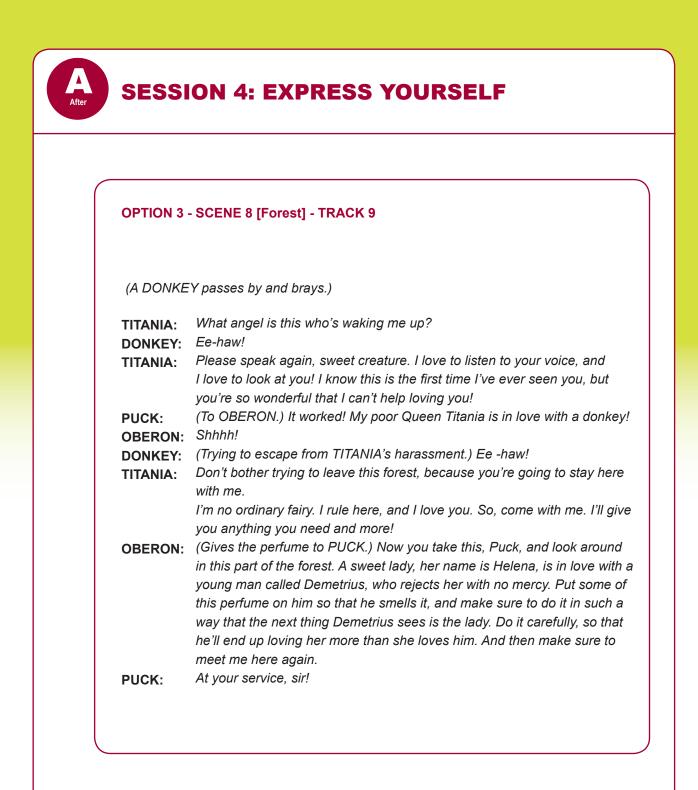












#### **OTHER SHOWS**

3º & 4º SECONDARY EDUCATION STAGE

A Christmas Carol *(In English)* El lazarillo de Tormes Bodas de sangre Notre Dame de Paris *(En Français)* 

#### Midsummer's Night Dream

Didactic Project elaborated by Nawaf Numen González



The lightest, most fun-loving Shakespeare comedy, now adapted for you. A musical full of special effects and surprises which will cast a spell on your. Fairies, elfs, comedians and crazy plots, are awaiting you at the theatre to help you enjoy the most magical English class of the year.



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