

DISCUSSION TOPICS FOR YOUR CLASS

For classes reading the play before seeing it:

1. What do you expect to see on stage at the Stratford Festival? Have each student make a list of predictions about what they expect. Save these predictions. After your Stratford trip, revisit them to see how they compared to the actual production.
2. Write in role, as either Viola or Sebastian, after seeing each other for the first time since the shipwreck and talk about your first impressions and reactions.
3. Make a story map or a story board outlining the main events of the play. (This may be used later in group activities.)

After your Stratford trip:

1. Identify all the mistaken identities and disguises in the play. Why do you think this is important to the plot development?
2. What function do the comic characters (e.g. Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, Maria and Feste) serve in the play?
3. Do you think Malvolio was treated unfairly by Sir Toby, Maria and Feste? If so, what do you think Shakespeare is trying to tell us about how we treat one another?
4. How many different kinds of love did you see in this play? Describe them.

For more classroom activities, complete with instructions, materials and Ontario curriculum expectation links, visit stratfordfestival.ca/teachingmaterials.

You can also check out the following:

- The Forum**, a series of remarkable events to enrich the play-going experience: www.stratfordfestival.ca/forum/ .
- Stratford Festival's **YouTube channel** for behind-the-scenes videos, photos and interviews: www.youtube.com/user/stratfordfestival
- Stratford Festival's **Flickr** pages: www.flickr.com/photos/stratfest/
- Stratford Festival **Twitter**: twitter.com/stratfest
- Stratford Festival **Facebook**: www.facebook.com/StratfordFestival