



Dynamics

Italian word	Abbreviation	Meaning
Fortissimo	<i>ff</i>	Very loud
Forte	<i>f</i>	Loud
Mezzo Forte	<i>mf</i>	Moderately loud
Mezzo Piano	<i>mp</i>	Moderately quiet
Piano	<i>p</i>	Quiet
Pianissimo	<i>pp</i>	Very quiet
Crescendo	<i><</i>	Gradually getting louder
Decrescendo	<i>></i>	Gradually getting quieter
Diminuendo	<i>v</i>	Gradually getting quieter

Tempo

Italian term	Meaning
Grave	Slow and solemn
Adagio	Slowly
Andante	Walking pace
Moderato	Moderate tempo
Allegro	Fast, quickly and bright
Presto	Extremely fast
Ritardando	Gradually slowing down
Accelerando	Gradually getting faster

Home Learning - Read and use the information on the left side of the sheet to answer the questions. **You will be tested on this next lesson.**

1	What is the Italian word for 'very loud' dynamics?	
2	What does the word 'forte' mean?	
3	What is the abbreviation for 'mezzo forte'?	
4	What does 'mezzo piano' mean?	
5	What is the Italian term for 'quiet' dynamics?	
6	What is the abbreviation for 'pianissimo'?	
7	What does 'Grave' mean?	
8	What is the Italian term for a slow tempo?	
9	What does the word 'andante' mean?	
10	What is the Italian term for a fast, quick and bright tempo?	
11	What does 'ritardando' mean?	
12	What is the Italian term for gradually getting faster?	
13	What does the word 'dynamics' mean?	
14	What does the word 'tempo' mean?	

A Midsummer Night's Dream – Synopsis

A Midsummer Night's Dream is a romantic comedy by William Shakespeare that explores the complexities of love, magic, and mistaken identities. Set in Athens and a nearby enchanted forest, the play weaves together several plotlines that involve both human and fairy realms.

The play begins with the upcoming marriage of Theseus, the Duke of Athens, to Hippolyta, Queen of the Amazons. However, there is a complication: Hermia, a noblewoman in Athens, is in love with Lysander, but her father, Egeus, insists that she marry Demetrius. Hermia defies her father's wishes, and she and Lysander flee to the forest to escape the Athenian law. Helena, Hermia's friend who is in unrequited love with Demetrius, follows them into the forest in hopes of winning his affection.

Meanwhile, in the forest, Oberon, the king of the fairies, and Titania, the queen of the fairies, are embroiled in a quarrel. Their conflict is over a young Indian boy whom Titania refuses to give up to Oberon. In an attempt to gain control of the boy, Oberon commands his servant Puck to use a magical flower, which causes people to fall in love with the first person they see upon waking. Oberon plans to use the flower's magic to make Titania fall in love with a ridiculous creature, a plan that works hilariously when Puck transforms Bottom, one of the Athenian craftsmen, into a donkey.

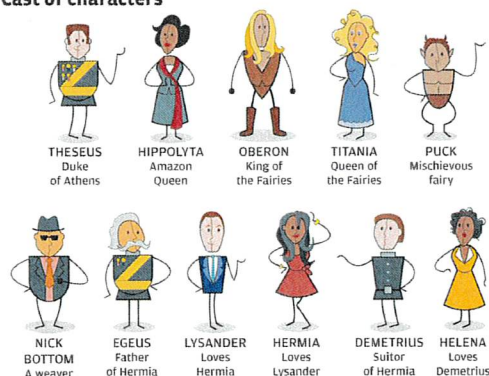
At the same time, Puck's magic also causes confusion in the love lives of the Athenian lovers. When Puck mistakenly administers the love potion to Lysander instead of Demetrius, both men fall in love with Helena, causing a chaotic love triangle. The women are bewildered, and the men argue bitterly, leading to much confusion and misunderstanding. Ultimately, Oberon and Puck manage to correct the magic, ensuring that Lysander's affections return to Hermia and Demetrius is reconciled with Helena.

Back in Athens, the workmen (or "rude mechanicals"), who are preparing a play for the Duke's wedding, provide comic relief throughout the story. They inadvertently add humor through their bumbling performance of *Pyramus and Thisbe*, which is full of melodrama and mishaps.

In the end, the magic is undone, the lovers are reunited with their true partners, and the fairies bless the marriages. Theseus pardons the lovers, and they all return to Athens to celebrate. The play closes with a lighthearted performance by the mechanicals, offering a joyful and humorous conclusion to the evening's events.

Overall, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is a story about love's irrationality and the fantastical possibilities that lie within the realm of dreams and imagination. Through its interplay of magic, mistaken identities, and comedic situations, Shakespeare explores the transformative power of love and the sometimes unpredictable nature of human desire.

Cast of characters



1. Who is Theseus planning to marry at the start of the play?

2. Why does Hermia flee to the forest?

3. What is the main reason for the quarrel between Oberon and Titania?

4. How does Puck's magic affect Lysander and Demetrius?

5. What role does the magical flower play in the plot?

6. How does Puck transform Bottom?

7. What is the name of the play the workmen are preparing for Theseus and Hippolyta's wedding?

8. What happens to the Athenian lovers after Puck corrects his mistakes?

9. How does Oberon plan to punish Titania for not giving up the Indian boy?

10. What is the outcome of the play's final scene?