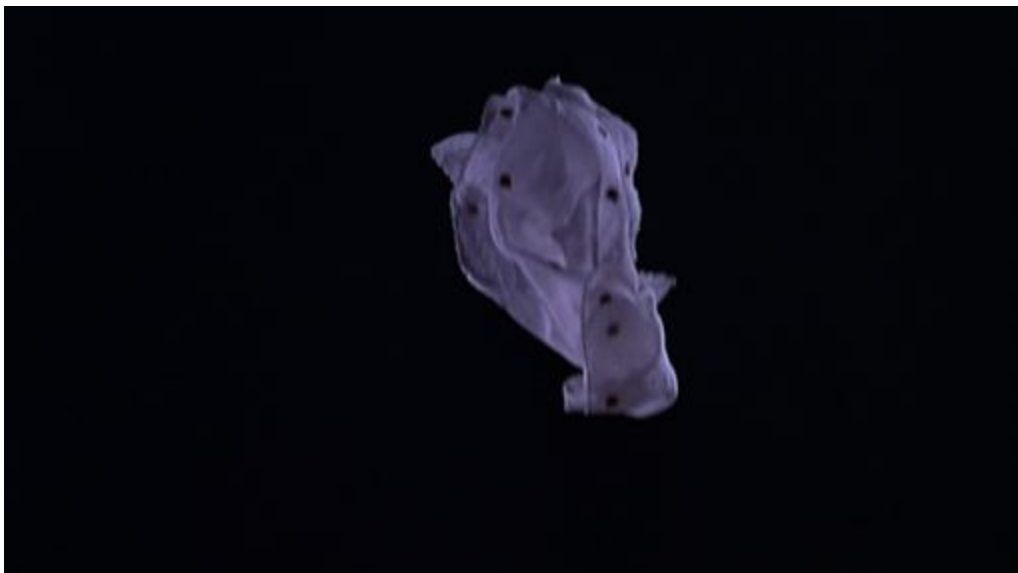


Othello

Act 3

- ★ Summarise the main action of Act Three.
- ★ Quote and explain how Desdemona **tragically** and **ironically** expresses the reason for her demise (61).
- ★ Quote and explain how Iago subtly and subversively stirs Othello's subconscious leading to later suspicions (61). Comment on **word choice** and any other relevant features.
- ★ Quote and explain Othello's last *open and untainted declaration of love* for Desdemona (63). Comment on the **irony** of the statement too.
- ★ Explain how subtle Iago's suggestions are on pages 63/65, and how that subtlety takes effect on Othello. What image (that is repeated later in the scene) does Othello create that suggests he is already taking the bait? Quote and explain.
- ★ "Men should be what they seem" (65). Comment on the many **ironies** suggested by this statement.
- ★ On page 66, Iago has sufficiently stirred Othello's interest and warns him about **jealousy**. Quote and explain Iago's warning [167-169] and Othello's response [192-194] to the idea of jealousy. What have Iago's suggestions made Othello do?
- ★ Now that his suggestions have taken root, how does Iago begin to **control** the actions of Othello (68)? Quote and explain.
- ★ What does Iago next suggest about Desdemona? How, at the bottom of page 69, does Shakespeare begin to show the turmoil in Othello's mind?
- ★ Iago's soliloquy on page 73 highlights the importance of the handkerchief. Quote and explain its significance.



Othello

Act 3

- ★ Othello returns demanding proof of Desdemona's infidelity. Iago's confidence is shown by the way he further torments Othello. How does he do this on page 76?
- ★ Othello is pushed over the edge by these taunts. What stage of jealousy does he enter next? Quote and explain an example of this (76/77).
- ★ By the end of the scene the character's roles have reversed however, in the text it is done *ironically*. Quote and explain the role reversal and the irony (78).
- ★ Explain how the significance of the handkerchief is portrayed on pages 81/84. Quote and explain.
- ★ Iago's contribution to the scene is small but significant. How (84)?
- ★ What is the main purpose of Act 3 Scene 4?

