

# Lesson Ideas and Materials: *Twelfth Night* (William Shakespeare)



Based on: Act 1\*

Created by: Emma Wieczorek

## Plot Summary of the Act/Scene:

The play is set in Illyria, a fictional land ruled by a duke named Orsino. Orsino is madly in love with the countess Olivia. However, she swore to stay in mourning for seven years due to her brother's death. Meanwhile, Lady Viola, surviving a shipwreck, is stranded at the coast of Illyria. She decides to dress up as a man, calls herself Cesario forthwith, and in this disguise she becomes Orsino's courtier. Soon she/he becomes his favorite and is sent to Olivia to woo her on his behalf. She accepts the task but reveals to the audience that she would rather have Orsino for herself than setting him up with Olivia.

At Olivia's court, Olivia's uncle Sir Toby is helping Sir Andrew, a silly knight who also hopes to marry Olivia. Her maid Maria judges them for drinking while also mocking the slow-witted Sir Andrew. At the same time, Feste, Olivia's fool, is joking around. Viola's/Cesario's wooing is rejected by Olivia. After Viola/Cesario leaves the scene, Olivia sends after her with a supposed lost ring. This gesture reveals Olivia's feelings for Viola/Cesario.

## Overview of Lesson Design:

Phase/Teaching Activity/Impulse	Material
<p><b>Activity 1 [individual work and plenary discussion]:</b> Task 1 is explained by the teacher. After the students complete the task on their own and come up with three qualities of a good performer, the teacher initiates an in-class discussion in which the students can share their individual thoughts.</p>	<p>WS 3: <i>Who is Feste?</i></p>
<p><b>Activity 2 [partner work]:</b> The teacher leads over to the character of Feste and introduces the next task (gray box on WS 3). With a partner the students fill out the characterization grid.</p>	<p>WS 3: <i>Who is Feste?</i></p> <p>Shakespeare's <i>Twelfth Night</i> (CSS edition*): Act 1</p>
<p><b>Activity 3 [individual work and plenary discussion]:</b> The students are now asked to write or draw Feste's character portrait. The students' products are either read out to fellow students or displayed on the walls as a gallery walk. The students give each other feedback on their products.</p>	<p>WS 3: <i>Who is Feste?</i></p> <p>Shakespeare's <i>Twelfth Night</i> (CSS edition*): Act 1</p>



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\*[*Twelfth Night*, CSS edition] Shakespeare, William: *Twelfth Night* (Cambridge School Shakespeare, edited by Anthony Partington and Richard Spencer). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.

Phase/Teaching Activity/Impulse	Material
<p><b>Activity 4 [individual work]:</b> The teacher hands out WS 4 and explains task 1 (word search). The students complete task 1 on their own.</p>	<p>WS 4: <i>Twelfth Night Act 1</i></p>
<p><b>Activity 5 [group work]:</b> The students get together in small groups to create their own word searches. They can either do this by using paper and pencil or digitally by using the online platform <i>LearningApps</i>.<sup>*</sup> Afterwards, they exchange their works and fill out each other's word search. They also give feedback on the quality of the word search.</p> <p><sup>*</sup>Link: <a href="https://learningapps.org">https://learningapps.org</a></p>	<p>WS 4: <i>Twelfth Night Act 1</i></p> <p>Shakespeare's <i>Twelfth Night</i> (CSS edition*): Act 1</p> <p>mobile device (optional)</p>
<p><b>Target competence(s):</b> Reading, writing, text- and media literacy, language awareness  <b>Zielkompetenz(en):</b> <i>Funktionale kommunikative Kompetenz (Leseverstehen, Schreiben), Text- und Medienkompetenz, Sprachbewusstheit</i></p>	



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