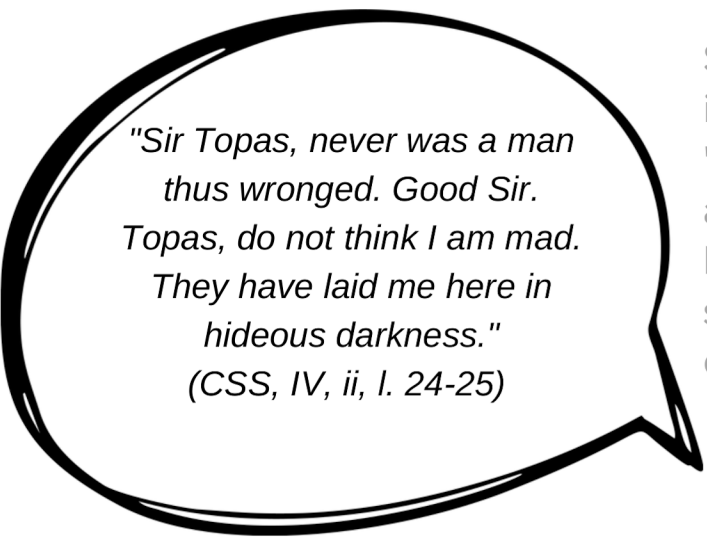


## WS 3: Act 4 Scene 2: Madness

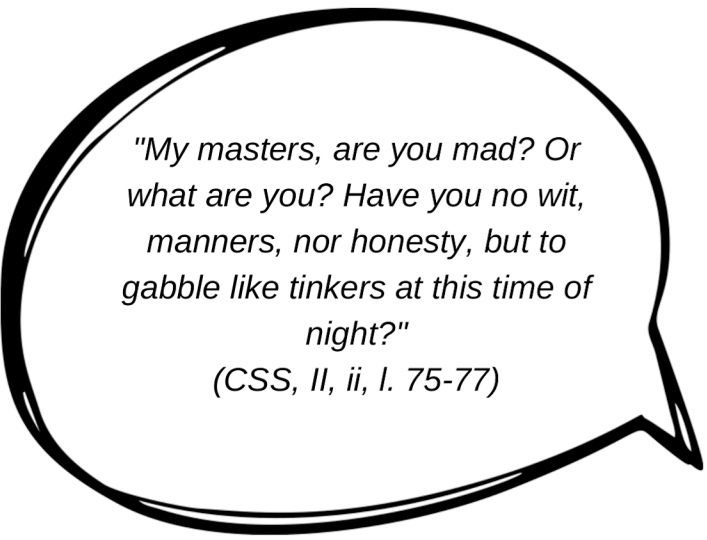
In the play *Twelfth Night* different definitions of "madness" are given.

1. Look at the following three quotes and **explain** how "madness" is described



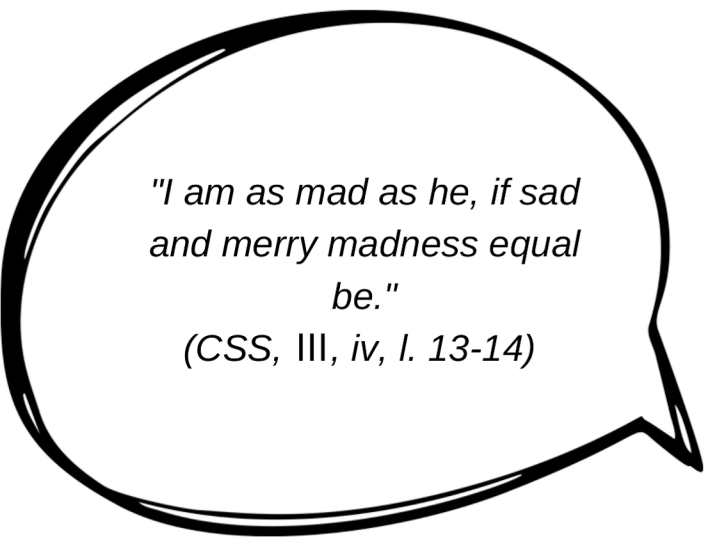
*"Sir Topas, never was a man  
thus wronged. Good Sir.  
Topas, do not think I am mad.  
They have laid me here in  
hideous darkness."  
(CSS, IV, ii, l. 24-25)*

Spoken by Malvolio, once he has been imprisoned for his supposed "madness". "Madness" is understood as a sickness that can make a person behave in dangerous ways. It also shows how easy it was to be considered mad by others.



*"My masters, are you mad? Or  
what are you? Have you no wit,  
manners, nor honesty, but to  
gabble like tinkers at this time of  
night?"  
(CSS, II, ii, l. 75-77)*

In this context "madness" is understood and used as a description for drunken behaviour and a disregard for others. "Madness" has a more casual meaning, but in this case with a negative connotation.



*"I am as mad as he, if sad  
and merry madness equal  
be."  
(CSS, III, iv, l. 13-14)*

Here, "madness" functions as a way to show and emphasize Olivia's love for Cesario. Madness is understood as a natural result of lovesickness and melancholy.

## WS 3: Act 4 Scene 2: Madness

1. Get together in pairs. **Explain** to your partner how you would define mental illness. Is your definition of "madness" similar to the one given in *Twelfth Night* or does it differ in important ways?
2. **Illustrate** the different meanings of "madness". Do so by looking at "madness" in the context of *Twelfth Night* as well as based on your own knowledge about "madness" by creating a Cawa.

