



Task 1: Learning from nature

Duke Senior ends his first speech claiming that nature could teach all kinds of moral lessons about human life. Now he asks what lessons Jaques has drawn from the sight of a wounded stag, and the First Lord lists three of Jaques's conclusions that criticise society.

- a. First, try to visualise what the situation might look like in a simple drawing.

the deer weeping into the stream	the wounded deer abandoned by the herd	the well-fed herd ignoring the wounded deer
		

- b. Explain in your own words the three lessons as described by the First Lord in lines 46-57.

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- c. Look back at what Duke Senior said about deer hunting in lines 21-5. Suggest how he now reacts to hearing himself so strongly criticised.

Task 2: Nature – the best teacher?

At the start of Act 2, Duke Senior claims that nature has a lot to teach humans about moral conduct.

- Do you agree that experiences in the Forest of Arden can teach more about good, evil, courage, honour and love than life in the 'civilised' city? Remember that Arden, as well as being an ideal world away from the corruptions of the court, is also a place of danger, hardship and personal struggles. Write at least one paragraph for each side of the argument. Remember to use examples and quotations from the script.

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Task 1 adapted from; Task 2 taken from: Shakespeare, William. *As you like it* (Cambridge School Shakespeare), ed. Linzy Brady, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2015, p. 36 and p. 68.

