

 Refers to links on www.crossref-it.info

Act 4 scene 1

- ❖ Consider Petruchio's treatment of Katherina.
 - Why does he treat her so harshly?
 - What effect does this have on her?
 - As a director, how would you advise an actor to play Petruchio's role?
- ❖ Read Petruchio's soliloquy at the end of this scene. Make notes on:
 - The content of his soliloquy
 - The delivery of his soliloquy
 - His attitude towards Katherina
 - His relationship with the audience
- ❖ Make a mind map or spider diagram of all the different strands of plot which have been introduced in the play so far
 - What elements of the 'taming' plot reflect on the themes and issues raised in the rest of the play?

Act 4 scene 2

- ❖ What light is shed on the audience's perception of Bianca by:
 - The suitors' comments about her?
 - The dialogue which involves her?
- ❖ Tranio's role is to knock Bianca's other suitors out of the running so that his master Lucentio can woo her and win her. What techniques does he employ to do this in Act 4 Scene 2?
- ❖ 'If he be credulous .. alone.' What does this short speech tell us about Tranio's character/status?

Act 4 scene 3

- ❖ What is the effect of introducing Grumio into the 'taming' process?
 - Does he have the same intentions as Petruchio?
 - How does he compare to Petruchio?
- ❖ Katherina is denied food, clothes and words. Why does Petruchio choose such an extreme way of relating to her and is there any evidence that his plan to 'tame' her is working?
- ❖ Read Petruchio's speech to Katherina on clothing at the end of the scene

- Do you agree that it is 'the mind that makes the body rich'?
- How do you think Katherina responds to this speech after the way in which she has been treated in this scene?

Act 4 scene 4

- ❖ The Pedant acts his part very effectively. What might Shakespeare be saying about people's behaviour here?
- ❖ Consider the implications of Lucentio and Bianca's deception on their relationships with their fathers and with each other.
- ❖ Lucentio seems to be insecure in his last lines in this scene. What do you understand about his relationship and character from his words?

Act 4 scene 5

- ❖ Which tactics is Petruchio using in this scene to continue his plan to 'tame' Katherina?
 - Does he intend to brain-wash her or is he inviting her to join in his game?
 - How does their relationship develop in this scene?
- ❖ What role does Hortensio play in this scene?
 - How do his comments contribute to the themes of the play?
- ❖ Read Hortensio's final rhyming couplet. What is he learning about relationships from watching Petruchio 'tame' Katherina?
 - What do you think his relationship with the widow will be like?