



ACTIVITIES: KEY STAGE 3

INTERVIEWS WITH THE CAST

Interview with Dickon (Sir Toby):

- 1) Find the interview with Dickon the actor playing Sir Toby. He describes the way that the play is a comedy, but yet has moments of cruelty in it.
- 2) Make a list of the parts of the play you think of as being particularly cruel.
- 3) Compare your list with a fellow student and discuss any differences in your ideas. With your partner find quotations which show the cruel parts of the play.
- 4) Use these quotations to write either Sir Toby or Malvolio's diary for 2 days.

Interview with Peter (Antonio):

- 1) Find the interview with Peter, the actor playing Antonio. From approximately time code 4:30 to 6:00 in the recording he talks about Antonio's character emphasising that he is 'hard guy' but that this is contrasted with his strong love for Sebastian. Peter says he is thinking that he might play Antonio like a gangster to make the contrast with his love even stronger.
- 2) Have a look at the scenes where Antonio appears in the play and decide how Antonio will feel at the end of the play when Sebastian is with Olivia.
- 3) Share your thoughts with a fellow student and agree how you think Antonio would feel at the end of the play.
- 4) Write an interview with Antonio where he describes his reactions to the forthcoming marriage of Sebastian and Olivia.

Interview with Alex (Malvolio):

- 1) Find the interview with Alex the actor playing Malvolio. From time code 1:40 onwards he talks about the way Malvolio feels he is born in the wrong place 'all is fortune' (2.5.23) and his sense that he deserves to be a count or a king. Alex goes on to describe how Malvolio uses words as a weapon such as 'I marvel your ladyship takes delight in such a barren rascal' (1.5.78-9).
- 2) Look at some of Malvolio's speeches and find other examples where he uses language as a weapon to attack others.



Interview with Alex (Malvolio): Continued

- 3) Share your ideas with a fellow student and find quotations which show him attacking others.
- 4) With your partner create a poster showing Malvolio in the middle with the examples of language he uses to attack others surrounding the central picture.

Interview with Jack (Sebastian):

- 1) Find the interview with Jack, the actor playing Sebastian. In the section of the recording beginning around time code 1:45 Jack describes how Sebastian has little hope that his sister is alive which means he feels a sense of deep grief. Jack says that Sebastian is forced to make a fresh start in Illyria and has to cope with all the things that happen which seem almost mad to him 'Or I am mad, or else this is a dream' (4.1.60).
- 2) Make a list of all the things which seem 'mad' to Sebastian in Illyria.
- 3) Compare your list with a fellow student and find quotes to support each point.
- 4) Write a paragraph about Sebastian's experiences in Illyria and how things seem puzzling or mad to him.

Interview with Montgomery (Orsino):

- 1) Find the interview with Montgomery, the actor playing Orsino. At about time code 3:30 in the recording, he picks out Orsino's words 'sweet pangs' (2.4.16) as a key to his character. Orsino is in love and seems to delight in the pain of being refused by Olivia.
- 2) Decide whether you think Orsino is foolish to keep on sending messages to Olivia when it is clear she is not attracted to him.
- 3) Compare your thoughts with a fellow student and discuss any differences in your ideas.
- 4) Imagine you are an agony aunt in a magazine and write some advice to Orsino about his love for Olivia.