

Act One
Standards Focus: Development of Drama

Directions: In Act One, we are given information regarding the elements of drama (setting, conflict, plot, character, and theme), which help set up and develop the story. Provide some of this information by completing the following activity.

1. Setting is not only the physical location of a story, but also the mood or atmosphere, and time. What is the geographical setting of the play? What is the general mood or atmosphere? How can you tell? What is the time of year?

2. Character: We also meet several characters in this act. Fill in the empty boxes in the table below with information about the characters we have met so far. An example has been done for you.

Character	Current Situation	Position in Society	Relationship to Other Characters
Theseus	preparing to marry Hippolyta	the Duke of Athens. Well-respected authority figure as the Duke and as a man	holds authority over the other citizens of Athens
	Queen of the Amazons; soon to be the Duchess of Athens		
Egeus			Hermia's Father
	forced into an engagement with a man she does not love		

Character	Current Situation	Place in Society	Relationship to Other Characters
			wants to marry Hermia, though she does not love him; Once vowed to love Helena, but has since changed the direction of his affection
Lysander			
	in love with Demetrius, though he does not love her		
	a carpenter and the leader of an amateur acting troupe		
		apparently none, though he would say he was quite important	

3. **Conflict** is the problem or problems faced by the characters, and is the driving force behind the plot. Conflict often plays a key role in the theme, since once a conflict is resolved, the characters (and the audience) learn a lesson. In Act One, we are given a sneak peek into what will become the major conflicts of the story. So far, what do you think might be potential conflicts within the play?
