

Othello Key Scenes and Themes Sheet

Key Scenes

1. Act 1 Scene 1- Resentment and Redress
2. Act 1 Scene 3- Talk of Love and War in Venice
3. Act 2 Scene 3 Cassio Carouses in Cyprus
4. Act 3 Scene 3- Temptation Scene
5. Act 4 Scene 1- 'Proof' of wife's infidelity
6. Act 5 Scene 1- Deadly Attack on Cassio
7. Act 5 Scene 2- Smothering love and exposing villainy

Key Characters

- Othello
- Iago
- Desdemona
- Brabantio
- Roderigo
- Emilia
- Cassio

Key Themes, Issues and Images

- Appearance vs Reality
- Revenge
- Love
- Racism/Race
- Jealousy
- Gender and Sexuality
- Poison
- Sexism and treatment of women
- Tragic Irony

- Poison
- Handkerchief
- Heaven and Hell
- Animals
- War
- Storm and Sea

Other Notable Moments and Events

- Iago's plot and the way it unfolds in its stages
- Casualties of Iago's plot
- Way of life in Venice
- The role and treatment of women
- Atmosphere in the play
- The alienation of Othello by Brabantio
- The respect that Othello has built up with the noble people in Venice
- How his relationships change as a result of Iago's plan
- How his reputation was ruined by Iago and that he did not die a hero
- Relationships between characters- Othello + Iago, Emilia + Desdemona, Othello + Desdemona, Cassio + Bianca