



# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

## STUDENT WORKSHEET

### A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

By William Shakespeare

#### ① VOCABULARY: THE LANGUAGE OF DREAMS

Do you know what any of these expressions mean?

1. Dream on
2. Pipe dreams
3. Dream team
4. Dream up
5. Dreamboat
6. A dream come true
7. Dream world
8. Daydream

Read the following sentences. Work in pairs/groups and discuss what you think the expressions mean, now that you have read them in context.

- I love playing football. One day I'd like to play for Man Utd, but that's only a **pipe dream**.
- If Tom thinks he's going to be a pop star, he's living in a **dream world**!
- Some days I look out the window and **daydream** about going on holiday.
- An umbrella for pets? It's amazing what these inventors **dream up**!
- You marrying Beyonce? **Dream on**!
- He's a real **dreamboat**.
- My wedding was like a **dream come true**!

#### Definitions:

1. **Dream on:** Used for saying that something is unlikely to happen (phrase/expression)
2. **Pipe dream:** A pleasant situation that exists only in your imagination(noun)
3. **Dream team:** A perfect team made up of the best players (noun)
4. **Dream up:** To think of a new idea or plan, especially one that is silly or unusual (phrasal verb)
5. **Dreamboat:** Someone who is very attractive (noun)
6. **Dream come true:** Something that happens that you have always hoped for (phrase)
7. **Dream world:** Something you wish for that can never really happen (noun)
8. **Day dream:** To spend time thinking about something pleasant, especially when you should be doing something more serious (verb)



# SHAKESPEARE FOR LIFE

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Now choose four expressions from the list and write your own sentences.

1. ....

2. ....

3. ....

4. ....

## 2 DISCUSSION: DREAMS

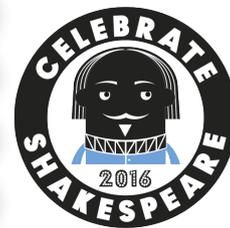
Discuss the following questions with your classmate/s:

- Can you remember a recent dream you've had?
- Do you ever have **recurring** dreams?
- What's the **strangest** dream you've ever had?
- Do you think dreams can tell us important things about our lives?



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## 3 WRITING: DREAM DIARIES

Select two things from the list below and write about a dream featuring these two things. It could be a fictional or 'real' dream that you have had. Things you could write about:

- **Setting:** Where were you? Describe the setting.
- **Characters/people:** Who were you with and what were they doing?
- **Action:** What were you doing? What happened? How did it end?

Phrases you could use in your story:

- In the dream I was...
- Suddenly...
- Then, to my surprise...
- In the end...

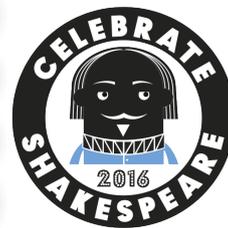
Select two of the following items to feature in your dream diary:

- |             |                |             |          |            |                          |
|-------------|----------------|-------------|----------|------------|--------------------------|
| A fairy     | A wallet       | A train     | A snake  | A mountain | A beach                  |
| A spaceship | An alarm clock | A film star | A trophy | A teacher  | A suitcase full of money |
| A monkey    | A giant cake   |             |          |            |                          |



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## SPEAK SHAKESPEARE

The speech below is an extract from Macmillan Readers adaptation of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Read and compare each version and discuss the difference with your classmate.

Recite it with your classmate and then discuss the differences between each version.

### ORIGINAL:

**Hermia:** I frown upon him, yet he loves me still.

**Helena:** O that your frowns would teach my smiles such skill.

**Hermia:** I give him curses, yet he gives me love.

**Helena:** O that my prayers could such affection move.

**Hermia:** The more I hate, the more he follows me.

**Helena:** The more I love, the more he hateth me.

**Hermia:** His folly Helena is no fault of mine.

**Helena:** None but your beauty, would that fault were mine.

**Frown** = lower your eyebrows to show that you are angry or annoyed

**Skill** = the ability to do something well

**Curses** = words that wish bad things for someone

**Affection** = love

**Hateth** = hates

**Folly** = silly behavior

### ADAPTATION:

**Hermia:** I am not friendly or kind to him. But the more I hate him, the more he loves me.

**Helena:** I wish I could make him love me. But the more I love him, the more he hates me!

**Hermia:** I never wanted him to love me, Helena.

**Helena:** I know, I don't blame you. I blame your beauty. And I wish I was as beautiful as you.



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