



## ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP THE LANGUAGE OF THE TEXT

- Look at Egeus's speech to Theseus in **Act 1 Scene 1** and underline the words that show how angry he is with Hermia and Lysander.
- Read Helena's **Wall** on her **Character page** where Hermia calls her a 'canker-blossom' and a 'thief of love'. Now read the exchange between Hermia and Helena in **Act 3 Scene 2**. How does Helena describe Hermia? Who comes off worst in this exchange of insults?
- Read **Act 4 Scene 1** where Titania is besotted with Bottom. What do you notice about the way she talks to him and the way he responds to her? How do you know she is in love with him? What are the clues in Bottom's speeches that tell the audience he is an ass?
- Look at the **Language** techniques listed in the **Tools** button. Read the **Prologue of Act 5 Scene 1**. What techniques has Shakespeare used in this speech? What effect do they have on the audience?
- In **Act 2 Scene 1** Titania uses powerful language and images to describe the impact the Fairy King and Queen's quarrel is having on the natural world. Elizabethan England relied on good weather and abundant harvests to feed the population so they would appreciate just how serious this situation would be. Listen to the **audio clip** where Emma (Titania) talks about the character and her connection with the natural world. Then read Titania's speech and select two or three images that you think are the most dramatic. Turn these into a 30-second news headline that is the first story on the evening television news.