

Othello

William Shakespeare

How does Iago make suspicion feel like Othello's own conclusion?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Iago plants suspicion and makes Othello own it
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FIND THE ANCHOR TEXT

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

SECTION / LOCATION	Act III, Scene III
START	Honest, my lord?
END	Why did I marry? This honest creature doubtless sees and knows more, much more, than he unfolds.
PASSAGE ID	sec-oth-03

THE MOVE

Track manipulation by making the target supply the accusation

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Iago rarely states the accusation he wants Othello to believe. He hesitates, withdraws, asks questions, and lets Othello supply the suspicion. The manipulation works because the conclusion begins to feel self-generated.

MARK

Circle every place Iago refuses, delays, or claims not to want to speak. Underline the questions or hints that push Othello forward. Star the first line where Othello states a suspicion more strongly than Iago has.

NOTICE

- Why does Iago's reluctance make him sound more trustworthy?
- Which idea does Othello begin to supply for himself?
- At what point does Iago no longer need to make the accusation because Othello is carrying it?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does Iago make suspicion feel like Othello's own conclusion? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: How does Iago make suspicion feel like Othello's own conclusion? Use at least two details from the assigned passage and explain how they support your interpretation.

CLOSE

Name the single detail that most changed or sharpened your interpretation, and explain why.

STRONG ANSWER	Iago makes suspicion feel self-generated by withholding, echoing, hesitating, and asking questions rather than stating the accusation directly. Othello increasingly supplies the conclusion himself, which makes the suspicion feel discovered rather than planted.
EVIDENCE	Use Iago's reluctance or echoing and then a later line where Othello states the suspicion more strongly than Iago has.
WATCH FOR	Do not describe Iago as simply telling Othello that Desdemona is unfaithful. The manipulation depends on making Othello complete the accusation.
SOLO	Read the exact passage independently.
SUPPORTED	Use narration and sentence highlighting while reading the same passage.
LISTENING	Listen to the exact passage; visual following is optional. Same question and evidence demand.

STUDENT PAGE · SAME PASSAGE, SAME THINKING

Othello

William Shakespeare

How does Iago make suspicion feel like Othello's own conclusion?

START ANCHOR

Honest, my lord?

END ANCHOR

Why did I marry? This honest creature doubtless sees and knows more, much more, than he unfolds.

Use the Anchor Text Table of Contents in the Enhanced Reader to open the START anchor. Then use the dropdown to select the END anchor.

OPEN THE MARKED PASSAGE IN TUMBLELIT

SOLO: read independently. SUPPORTED: use narration + highlighting. LISTENING: listen to the exact passage. The question and evidence task stay the same.

1. MARK - Circle every place Iago refuses, delays, or claims not to want to speak. Underline the questions or hints that push Othello forward. Star the first line where Othello states a suspicion more strongly than Iago has.
2. NOTICE - Why does Iago's reluctance make him sound more trustworthy? Which idea does Othello begin to supply for himself?

At what point does Iago no longer need to make the accusation because Othello is carrying it?

3. THINK - Answer provisionally: How does Iago make suspicion feel like Othello's own conclusion?

4. WRITE - Write a short response using at least two pieces of evidence from this passage.

Use evidence from the assigned passage. Show what you noticed and how the text supports your interpretation.