

A Midsummer Night's Dream

William Shakespeare

How does Shakespeare let the audience see the gap between Titania's language and what is actually in front of her?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Titania sees an angel; the audience sees Bottom
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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 I
START	What angel wakes me from my flowery bed?
END	Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful.
PASSAGE ID	sec-msnd-02

THE MOVE

Read dramatic irony through conflicting descriptions

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Titania’s enchanted perception produces language of beauty and wisdom while the audience sees Bottom with an ass’s head. Dramatic irony comes from holding her sincere description against visible reality.

MARK

Underline Titania’s praise of Bottom. Circle any reply from Bottom that sounds ordinary, skeptical, or comic. In the margin, write TITANIA SEES and AUDIENCE SEES beside the two competing versions of the same person.

NOTICE

- What does Titania's language ask us to imagine?
- What does the audience know that makes her praise comic?
- Why is the scene funnier because Titania is sincere rather than pretending?

THINK

Answer provisionally: How does Shakespeare let the audience see the gap between Titania's language and what is actually in front of her? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: How does Shakespeare let the audience see the gap between Titania's language and what is actually in front of her? 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	The audience sees dramatic irony because Titania's language describes beauty and nobility while the visible reality is Bottom with an ass's head. Her sincerity makes the gap stronger, not weaker.
EVIDENCE	Use Titania's praise and a detail the audience knows about Bottom that contradicts the praise.
WATCH FOR	Do not answer only that the scene is funny. Explain how unequal knowledge creates two versions of the same person at once.
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

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How does Shakespeare let the audience see the gap between Titania's language and what is actually in front of her?

START ANCHOR	What angel wakes me from my flowery bed?
END ANCHOR	Thou art as wise as thou art beautiful.

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** - Underline Titania's praise of Bottom. Circle any reply from Bottom that sounds ordinary, skeptical, or comic. In the margin, write TITANIA SEES and AUDIENCE SEES beside the two competing versions of the same person.
2. **NOTICE** - What does Titania's language ask us to imagine? What does the audience know that makes her praise comic? Why is the scene funnier because Titania is sincere rather than pretending?
3. **THINK** - Answer provisionally: How does Shakespeare let the audience see the gap between Titania's language and what is actually in front of her?
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.