

The Tempest

William Shakespeare

Why does Ariel's imagined human pity change Prospero more than the prisoners' suffering itself?

TOTAL TIME

PASSAGE

30 minutes	Ariel teaches Prospero pity
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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 V, Scene I
START	That if you now beheld them, your affections would become tender.
END	The rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance.
PASSAGE ID	sec-temp-02

THE MOVE

Let a subordinate's response change the powerful character's decision

WHY THIS PASSAGE

Prospero already knows his enemies are suffering, but Ariel's description of how a human observer would pity them gives that suffering a moral frame Prospero has not been using. The subordinate becomes the character who teaches the powerful man what compassion should look like.

MARK

Underline Ariel's description of the prisoners' condition. Circle the moment Ariel imagines how a human heart would respond. Star Prospero's line where that imagined response changes his decision.

NOTICE

- What facts about the prisoners does Prospero already know?
- What does Ariel add that mere information about suffering did not?
- Why is it significant that a spirit teaches a human being to act humanely?

THINK

Answer provisionally: Why does Ariel's imagined human pity change Prospero more than the prisoners' suffering itself? Choose the strongest interpretation you can defend from this passage alone.

WRITE

Write a short evidence-based response to: Why does Ariel's imagined human pity change Prospero more than the prisoners' suffering itself? 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	Ariel changes Prospero by modeling the pity a human should feel. Prospero already knows the prisoners suffer, but Ariel gives that suffering a moral response that Prospero has not yet chosen.
EVIDENCE	Use Ariel's description of the captives, his imagined human pity, and Prospero's shift toward virtue over vengeance.
WATCH FOR	Do not make Ariel's power factual information. The new element is moral framing, not new knowledge of the prisoners.
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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Why does Ariel's imagined human pity change Prospero more than the prisoners' suffering itself?

START ANCHOR	That if you now beheld them, your affections would become tender.
END ANCHOR	The rarer action is in virtue than in vengeance.

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 Ariel's description of the prisoners' condition. Circle the moment Ariel imagines how a human heart would respond. Star Prospero's line where that imagined response changes his decision.
2. **NOTICE** - What facts about the prisoners does Prospero already know? What does Ariel add that mere information about suffering did not? Why is it significant that a spirit teaches a human being to act humanely?
3. **THINK** - Answer provisionally: Why does Ariel's imagined human pity change Prospero more than the prisoners' suffering itself?
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.