

A Midsummer Night's Dream in Pictures

Lead-in: Ask and answer questions about 'A Midsummer's Night Dream' using the words in the box.

woods marry donkey potion Titania mistake Puck fall in love a play quarrel

Task 2A: Read the first four lines of the dialogue from Act IV Scene I. Match it to one of the paintings.

TITANIA

Come, sit thee down upon this flowery bed,
While I thy amiable cheeks do coy,
And stick musk-roses in thy sleek smooth head,
And kiss thy fair large ears, my gentle joy.

Task 2B: Read the rest of the dialogue.

Who are Peaseblossom, Cobweb and Mustardseed? What does Bottom ask them to do?

BOTTOM Where's Peaseblossom? Scratch my head Peaseblossom.
Where's Mounsieur Cobweb?

COBWEB Ready.

BOTTOM Mounsieur Cobweb, good mounsieur, get you your
weapons in your hand, and kill me a red-hipped
humble-bee on the top of a thistle; and, good
mounsieur, bring me the honey-bag. Where's Mounsieur Mustardseed?

MUSTARDSEED Ready.
What's your Will?

BOTTOM Nothing, good mounsieur, but to help Cavalery Cobweb
to scratch. I must to the barber's, monsieur; for
methinks I am marvellous hairy about the face; and I
am such a tender ass, if my hair do but tickle me,
I must scratch.

TITANIA What, wilt thou hear some music,
my sweet love?

Sleep thou, and I will wind thee in my arms.
Fairies, begone, and be all ways away.

Task 3: Read the description of the painting and fill in the gaps with words and phrases from the box.

beside In the foreground In the centre To his right a symbol of

(1) _____ of the painting, Bottom is sitting on the ground. We can see he has the body of a man and the head of a donkey. Titania is **(2)** _____ him. She is calling upon her fairies to look after Bottom and get him everything he needs. One fairy scratches Bottom's head; Mustardseed perches on his hand and Cobweb has killed a bee and is bringing him the honey-bag. **(3)** _____, a young woman offers him a basket of dried peas. **(4)** _____, a young woman is leading a small doll-like creature by a string. She is **(5)** _____ the triumph of youth over old age.

Task 4. Write a description of one of the paintings. Use phrases from Task 3.