# BRITISH COUNCIL

## Learn English

### Shakespeare

A Beautiful Trick

#### Task 1

Watch the first part of the interview with Susan, from 00.00 to 01.08. Are the sentences true or false?

- 1. Susan's mother is Japanese and her father is English.
- 2. She grew up in England.
- 3. She fell in love with Shakespeare when she studied it at school.
- 4. Most of Shakespeare's plays are set in England.

#### Task 2

Watch the second part of the interview, from 01.09 to 02.16. According to Susan, what is 'Much Ado About Nothing' about? Tick **six** answers.

- 1. love
- 2. relationships
- 3. political ambition
- 4. marriage
- 5. communities
- 6. younger people's frustrations
- 7. older people's expectations
- 8. deception and tricks
- 9. right and wrong

#### Task 3

Watch the last part of the interview, from 02.17 to the end. How does Susan describe the characters of Hero and Beatrice? Put the adjectives in the correct groups.

fun / witty / obedient / traditional / quiet / modern / complicated / kind / nasty / vulnerable / complex



#### Task 4

Match the correct definitions with the **expressions** from the interview with Susan.

become a couple / met, encountered / changed from a child to an adult / understands / has a successful ending / start to love each other

- 1. I grew up \_\_\_\_\_ in Munich, in Germany.
- 2. I first came across \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ Shakespeare at school.
- Having worked in theatre in different countries and seeing how audiences react to Shakespeare, everyone gets it \_\_\_\_\_\_. I think

it's very universal.





4. The war between Beatrice and Benedick is so fun to watch. And then when they do **get together** 

at the

end, it pays off \_\_\_\_\_

5. You've got Hero and Claudio trying to trick Benedick and Beatrice so that they fall in love \_\_\_\_\_

#### Task 5

Can you remember the expressions from the previous task? Add the missing words.

- 1. I grew \_\_\_\_\_ in Munich, in Germany.
- 2. I first came \_\_\_\_\_ Shakespeare at school.
- Having worked in theatre in different countries and seeing how audiences react to Shakespeare, everyone gets

   I think it's very universal.

\_. I think it's very universal.

- 4. The war between Beatrice and Benedick is so fun to watch. And then when they do get \_\_\_\_\_\_ at the end, it pays \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5. You've got Hero and Claudio trying to trick Benedick and Beatrice so that they \_\_\_\_\_ in love.

# 

#### Answers

#### Task 1

- 1. True
- 2. False
- 3. False
- 4. True

#### Task 2

- 1. love
- 2. relationships
- 3. marriage
- 4. communities
- 5. older people's expectations
- 6. deception and tricks

#### Task 3

#### Hero

traditional quiet obedient kind vulnerable fun complex

#### **Beatrice**

modern complicated witty nasty

#### Task 4

- 1. I grew up (changed from a child to an adult) in Munich, in Germany.
- 2. I first came across (met, encountered) Shakespeare at school.
- 3. Having worked in theatre in different countries and seeing how audiences react to Shakespeare, everyone gets

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it (understands). I think it's very universal

- 4. The war between Beatrice and Benedick is so fun to watch. And then when they do get together (become a couple) at the end, it **pays off** (has a successful ending).
- 5. You've got Hero and Claudio trying to trick Benedick and Beatrice so that they fall in love (start to love each other).

#### Task 5

- 1. I grew up in Munich, in Germany.
- 2. I first came across Shakespeare at school.
- 3. Having worked in theatre in different countries and seeing how audiences react to Shakespeare, everyone gets it. I think it's very universal.
- 4. The war between Beatrice and Benedick is so fun to watch. And then when they do get together at the end, it pays off.
- 5. You've got Hero and Claudio trying to trick Benedick and Beatrice so that they fall in love. 2010/1. Sh