

Othello test study guide: Answer the following questions. You may work together with your classmates. This assignment will be handed in when you take your test.

1. What title is Cassio given at the start of the play but later taken from him? _____
2. What is Brabantio's title? _____
3. What is Iago's title for most of the story? _____
4. Aside from Othello by marriage, what three characters are relatives of Desdemona?
5. Who is Iago's wife? _____
6. Othello is referred to as "the Moor." Who were the Moors and where did they come from?
7. Early in the play, to whom does Desdemona say she is most loyal? _____
8. The story opens in what location? _____
9. What first attracted Desdemona to Othello?
10. What does Brabantio think Othello did to convince Desdemona to fall in love with him?
11. What is Roderigo hoping to do by conspiring with Iago?
12. When Othello is sent to Cyprus to fight the Turks, what does Desdemona request?
13. How is the Turkish fleet defeated?
14. Ironically, what do other characters, especially Othello, frequently say about Iago?
15. What weakness of Cassio's does Iago take advantage of to make him look really bad?
16. Who interferes and gets "hurt to danger" by Cassio in the street fight? _____
17. Why does Iago encourage Cassio to seek help from Desdemona?
18. What, according to Iago, is the "green-eyed monster"? _____
19. According to Lodovico, who is to replace Othello as governor of Cyprus? _____
20. What object with sentimental importance was planted as "evidence" to finally convince Othello that Desdemona was unfaithful to him? _____
21. Interestingly, what is Desdemona unable to get out of her mind as she prepares for bed on the night of her death?
22. How does Othello kill Desdemona?
23. Who ends up being in charge of Cyprus and gets to punish Iago? _____
24. Which major characters are still alive at the end of the play?

ON BACK: #25-40: Who said each of the following and what is the context behind why each is said?

*In following him, I follow but myself.
Heaven is my judge, not I for love and duty,
But seeming so for my peculiar end.
For when my outward action doth demonstrate
The native act and figure of my heart
In complement extern, 'tis not long after
But I will wear my heart upon my sleeve
For daws to peck at. I am not what I am.*
(lines 64-71, page 11)

*O heaven! How got she out? O treason of the blood!
Fathers, from hence trust not your daughters' minds
By what you see them act.—Is there not charms
By which the property of youth and maidhood
May be abused? (lines 191-195, page 19)*

*I do perceive here a divided duty.
To you I am bound for life and education.
My life and education both do learn me
How to respect you. You are the lord of duty.
I am hitherto your daughter. But here's my husband.
And so much duty as my mother showed
To you, preferring you before her father,
So much I challenge that I may profess
Due to the Moor my lord.*
(lines 209-218, page 41)

*I am glad I have found this napkin.
This was her first remembrance from the Moor.
My wayward husband hath a hundred times
Wooed me to steal it. But she so loves the token
(For he conjured her she should ever keep it)
That she reserves it evermore about her
To kiss and talk to. I'll have the work ta'en out
And give 't Iago. What he will do with it
Heaven knows, not I.
I nothing but to please his fantasy.*
(lines 334-343, pages 137-139)

*Let it not gall your patience, good Iago,
That I extend my manners. 'Tis my breeding
That gives me this bold show of courtesy.*
(lines 109-111, page 67)

*I have drunk but one cup tonight, and that was
craftily qualified too, and behold what
innovation it makes here. I am (unfortunate)
in the infirmity and dare not task my weakness
with any more.*
(lines 40-43, page 85)

*You see this fellow that is gone before?
He's a soldier fit to stand by Caesar
And give direction; and do but see his vice.
'Tis to his virtue a just equinox,
The one as long as th' other. 'Tis pity of him.
I fear the trust Othello puts him in,
On some odd time of his infirmity,
Will shake this island.
(lines 125-132, page 89)*

*Reputation, reputation, reputation! O, I have
lost my reputation! I have lost the immortal
part of myself, and what remains is bestial.
(lines 281-283, page 99)*

*Confess yourself freely to her. Importune her
help to put you in your place again. She is of
so free, so kind, so apt, so blessed a
disposition she holds it a vice in her
goodness not to do more than she is requested.
(lines 337-341, page 103)*

*That's a fault. That handkerchief
Did an Egyptian to my mother give.
She was a charmer, and could almost read
The thoughts of people. She told her, while she kept
it,
'Twould make her amiable and subdue my father
Entirely to her love. But if she lost it,
Or made a gift of it, my father's eye
Should hold her loathèd, and his spirits should hunt
After new fancies. She, dying, gave it me,
And bid me, when my fate would have me wived,
To give it her. I did so; and take heed on 't,
Make it a darling like your precious eye.
To lose 't or give 't away were such perdition
As nothing else could match.
(lines 65-79, page 157)*

*What did you mean by that same handkerchief
you gave me even now? I was a fine fool to take it!
I must take out the work? A likely piece of
work, that you should find it in your
chamber and know not who left it there! This is
some minx's token, and I must take out the work!
(lines 169-175, pages 182-183)*

CONTINUED ON BACK >

*My lord, this would not be believed in Venice,
Though I should swear I saw 't. 'Tis very much.
Make her amends. She weeps.
(lines 273-275, page 189)*

*Every day thou daff'st me with some device,
Iago, and rather, as it seems to me now,
keep'st from me all conveniency than suppliest me
with the least advantage of hope. I will
Indeed no longer endure it. Nor am I yet
persuaded to put up in peace what already
I have foolishly suffered.
(lines 206-211, page 207)*

*My mother had a maid called Barbary.
She was in love, and he she loved proved mad
And did forsake her. She had a song of willow,
An old thing 'twas, but it expressed her fortune,
And she died singing it. That song tonight
Will not go from my mind. [I have much to do
But to go hang my head all at one side
And sing it like poor Barbary. Prithee, dispatch.
(lines 28-35, page 213)*

*I have done the state some service, and they
know 't.
No more of that. I pray you in your letters,
When you shall these unlucky deeds relate,
Speak of me as I am. Nothing extenuate,
Nor set down aught in malice. Then must you
speak
Of one that loved not wisely, but too well;
Of one not easily jealous, but being wrought,
Perplexed in the extreme; of one whose hand,
Like the base Judean, threw a pearl away
Richer than all his tribe;
(lines 398-408, page 263)*

*I kissed thee ere I killed thee. No way but this,
Killing myself, to die upon a kiss.
(lines 420-421, page 265)*
