

Worksheet n° 2

Objectives : The Play : Getting to know the characters

Culture : Theatre in Shakespeare's time

Action

The Cast

Task : You have been hired as the director's assistant and your job is to help him choose the cast ...

Which part would you give to whom? Remember there are 7 parts for 4 actors, so some will have multiple parts.


			
Jeremy Savoir Bilingual actor, born in Switzerland	Alison Windsor Australian actress, maybe of Royal descent	Aoife Stone English actress Pronounce her name [i:fa]	Dario Costa Australian actor, of Italian origin

The Characters

Rosalind, Orlando and Mercutio are the main characters

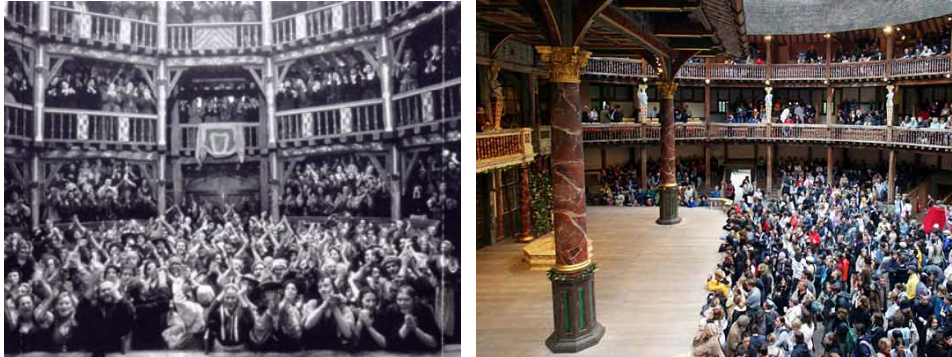
Rosalind	A 17 year-old school girl.
Orlando	A romantic young man. Impetuous and honest.
Mercutio	Rosalind's older brother. He is in the same school and is the leader of the student revolt.
The Parents	Rosalind and Mercutio's parents. The father speaks English and the mother speaks French.
Benvolio	A friend of Mercutio's. He is in the same school.
Maître Angelo	The State Prosecutor. A man.

Blog link

- *December 2006* : have a look at the pictures of the very first rehearsal and check if you're right
-  *In January 2007* : watch the videos of the actors introducing their characters.

Go Further

The Globe



Going to the theatre		
1. In Shakespeare's time women were allowed to play	Right	Wrong
2. Actors had to learn fencing (escrime) & dancing	Right	Wrong
3. Performances were usually given in the evening	Right	Wrong
4. Anybody could go to the theatre	Right	Wrong
YOUR SCORE		

Answers :

- 1. Wrong.** Men or boys played all the parts and very often they had to double in many different roles.
- 2. Right.** They also had to learn to play some instrument well.
- 3. Wrong.** They usually played in the afternoon to use natural light.
- 4. Right.** You could stand for one penny if you could not afford a seat.

On your own

➔ **Here is a Webquest on Shakespeare, 7 topics for 7 groups** (by an American high school teacher)

<http://www.revereps.mec.edu/Schools/GARFIELD/Ms.%20Tinkham's%20Shakespeare%20WebQ/questions.htm>

➔ **Webquest sur Shakespeare : Découverte d'un personnage historique pour des secondes et première** (Site de l'académie de Versailles)

<http://www.ac-versailles.fr/pedagogi/langues/dossier/shakespeare.htm>