



Worksheet n°6

Scene 3 : ARRANGED MARRIAGE

Based on a scene from Romeo & Juliet Act 3, scene 5

Extract from Act II scene ii

Rosalind's father has arranged a marriage for Rosalind and he becomes very angry when she rejects his idea.

FATHER

How now, wife?
Have you delivered our **decree** ¹?

MOTHER

Yes, but she'll have none of it.
I would the fool were married to her grave!²

FATHER

What? She'll have none of it?
She should thank us, be proud!
That we have found such a worthy partner-
For a girl like her!

ROSALIND

Proud and thankful do not go hand in hand.
of something I hate,
Yet I am thankful to you that I know
Enough to hate it.

FATHER

Chop-logic! Chop-logic ! What is this?
'Proud,' and 'I thank you,' and 'I thank you not;'
Thank me no thankings, nor, proud me no prouds!
You WILL get married Thursday next!

ROSALIND puts on ShakesPod. FATHER, enraged, throws down ROSALIND.

Or I will drag thee on a **hurdle**³ thither.
Out, you green-sickness **carrion**⁴! Out, you baggage⁵!
You **tallow-face**⁶!

¹ our decision

² Autant marier cette sotte à sa propre tombe !

³ La charrette des condamnés

⁴ charogne

⁵ traînée

⁶ Pâle et maladive

ROSALIND

Good father, I **beseech**⁷ you on my knees,
Hear me with patience but to speak a word.

FATHER

Hang thee, young baggage! disobedient **wretch**⁸!
I tell thee what: get thee to church o' Thursday,
Or never after look me in the face:
Speak not, reply not, do not answer me;
My fingers itch...

Study & Act Out ARRANGED MARRIAGE

Read & understand

- Listen to the CD and guess who the characters in the scene are. Use the voices and their tones to help you.
- Here is a list of adjectives. Choose the ones that suit the characters best:

furious	stubborn	violent	submissive
authoritarian	thankful	surprised	enraged
desperate	imploring	rebellious	obedient

Intermediate

- Turn the scene into simple modern English. Use drama exercises to make the pupils work on feelings and emotions with the simplified version. You may use choruses to keep all the pupils active during the performance.
- Then, only after this work, hand out the text and let them listen to the tape again.

Between the lines

- What decision is the Father talking about?
- Discuss Rosalind's reaction.
- Imagine what she's going to do in the play.

⁷ Je vous supplie

⁸ misérable

About the language

- Note a few specific traits of Shakespearean English
 - **Word order** : “Speak not” for “Don’t speak” – “Thursday next” for “Next Thursday”.
 - **Pronouns** : I tell “Thee” for I tell “You”.
- Retrouver la valeur des modaux dans ces phrases : *she’ll have - She should thank us - I cannot be proud - You WILL get married - I will drag thee*

Advanced

- The teachers divide the text into parts. In pairs, choose one part and **turn it into modern English**.
- Use the notes, dictionaries and, if you can, translations of the passage.
- Ask the assistant for help

Act out

- Pupils perform the scene in modern English. You may video the performances.

Go further

Study the scene between Juliet and her father in Baz Luhrmann’s *Romeo + Juliet*, you can also compare it to Zeffirelli’s *Romeo & Juliet*

