

***Othello* Quotations**

Directions: For each of the following quotations, identify the speaker, context, and significance. Make sure to explain how each quotation supports thematic meaning and incorporates literary techniques.

Act I

1. "I follow him to serve my turn upon him. /We cannot all be masters, nor all masters/Cannot be truly followed." (1.1)
2. "But I will wear my heart upon my sleeve/For daws to peck at. I am not what I am." (1.1)
3. "Even now, now, very now, and old black ram/Is tupping your white ewe." (1.1)
4. "Though I do hate him as I do Hell pains,/Yet for necessity of present life/I must show out a flag and sign of love...." (1.1)
5. "Fathers, from hence trust not your daughters' minds/By what you see them act." (1.1)
6. "But that I love the gentle Desdemona,/I would not my unhoused free condition/Put into circumscription and confine/For the sea's worth." (1.2)
7. "Keep up your bright swords for the dew will rust them." (1.2)
8. "O thou foul thief, where hast thou stowed my daughter?/Damned as thou art, thou hast enchanted her." (1.2)
9. "She loved me for the dangers I had passed,/And I loved her that she did pity them. This is the only witchcraft I have used." (1.3)
10. "I do perceive here a divided duty." (1.3)
11. "I here do give thee that with all my heart/Which, but thou hast already, with all my heart/I would keep from thee." (1.3)
12. "If virtue no delighted beauty lack,/Your son-in-law is far more fair than black." (1.3)
13. "Look to her, Moor, if thou hast eyes to see./She has deceived her father, and may thee." (1.3)
14. "My life upon her faith!—Honest Iago,/My Desdemona must I leave to thee." (1.3)
15. "Put money in thy purse." (1.3)
16. "I hate the Moor,/ And it is thought abroad that 'twixt my sheets/He has done my office." (1.3)
17. "The Moor is of a free and open nature/That thinks men honest that but seem to be so,/And will as tenderly be led by th' nose/As asses are . . ." (1.3)
18. "I have't! It is engendered! Hell and night/Must bring this monstrous birth to the world's light." (1.3)
19. "I will a round unvarnished tale deliver/Of my whole course of love." (1.3)

Act II

20. "With as little a web as this will I ensnare as great a fly as Cassio." (2.1)
21. "O my soul's joy! If after every tempest come such calms,/May the winds blow till they have wakened death!" (2.1)
22. "'Tis here, but yet confused;/Knavery's plain face is never seen till used." (2.1)
23. "When devils will the blackest sins put on/They do suggest at first with heavenly shows." (2.3)
24. "So I will turn her virtue into pitch,/And out of her own goodness make the net/That shall enmesh them all." (2.3)

Act III

25. "I will deny thee nothing." (3.3)
26. "But I do love thee! And when I love thee not,/ Chaos is come again." (3.3)
27. "He that filches from me my good name/Robs me of that which not enriches him/And makes me poor indeed." (3.3)
28. "Oh, beware, my lord, of jealousy./It is the green-eyed monster which doth mock/The meat it feeds on." (3.3)

29. "I had rather be a toad/And live upon the vapor of a dungeon/Than keep a corner in the thing I love/For others' uses." (3.3)
30. "What will you do with 't, that you have been so earnest/To have me filch it?" (3.3)
31. "Trifles light as air/Are to the jealous confirmations strong/As proofs of Holy Writ." (3.3)
32. "Not poppy, nor mandragora,/Nor all the drowsy syrups of the world/Shall ever medicine thee to that sweet sleep/Which thou owedst yesterday." (3.3)
33. "Villain, be sure thou prove my love a whore,/Be sure of it, give me the ocular proof." (3.3)
34. "Arise black Vengeance, from thy hollow cell!/Yield up, O Love, thy crown and hearted throne/To tyrannous hate! Swell, bosom, with thy fraught,/For 'tis of aspics' tongues!" (3.3)
35. "I will withdraw to furnish me with some swift means of death/For the fair devil. Now art thou my Lieutenant." (3.3)
36. "Believe, I had rather have lost my purse/Full of crusadoes; and, but my noble Moor/Is true of mind and made of no such baseness/As jealous creatures are, it were enough/To put him to ill-thinking." (3.4)
37. "Tis not a year or two shows us a man./They are all but stomachs, and we all but food./They eat us hungerly, and when they are full/They belch us." (3.4)
38. "But jealous souls will not be answered so./They are not ever jealous for the cause,/But jealous for they are jealous. 'Tis a monster/Begot upon itself, born on itself." (3.4)

Act IV

39. "Aye, let her rot, and perish, and be damned/tonight, for she shall not live. No, my heart is turned/to stone, I strike it and it hurts my hand. Oh, the/world hath not a sweeter creature." (4.1)
40. "But yet the pity of it, Iago! O Iago, the pity of it Iago!" (4.1)
41. "If that the earth could teem with a woman's tears,/Each drop she falls would prove a crocodile." (4.1)
42. "For if she be not honest, chaste, and true,/There's no man happy, the purest of their wives/Is foul as slander." (4.2)
43. "I understand a fury in your words,/But not the words." (4.2)
44. "The Moor's abused by some most villainous knave,/Some base notorious knave, some scurvy fellow." (4.2)
45. "Faith, I have heard too much; and your words and performances are no kin together." (4.2)
46. "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" (4.2)
47. "Nor I, neither, by this heavenly light: I might do't as well i'th' dark." (4.3)
48. "But I do think it is their husbands' faults/If wives do fall." (4.3)

Act V

49. "I have no great devotion to the deed." (5.1)
50. "He hath a daily beauty in his life/That makes me ugly." (5.1)
51. "O damned Iago! O inhuman dog!" (5.1)
52. "Yet she must die, else she'll betray more men./Put out the light, and then put out the light./If I quench thee, thou flaming minister,/I can again they former light restore." (5.2)
53. "When I have plucked the rose, I cannot give it vital growth again." (5.2)
54. "That death's unnatural that kills for loving." (5.2)
55. "Then murder's out of tune,/And sweet revenge grows harsh." (5.2)
56. "A guiltless death I die./...Nobody, I myself. Farewell./Commend me to my kind lord." (5.2)
57. "I say thy husband. Dost understand the word?" (5.2)
58. "You told a lie, an odious, a damned lie." (5.2)

59. "Good gentlemen, let me have leave to speak./'Tis proper I obey him, but not now."
(5.2)
60. "For naught did I in hate, but all in honor." (5.2)
61. "Will you, I pray, demand that demi-devil/Why he hath thus ensnared my soul and
body?" (5.2)
62. "Demand me nothing. What you know, you know." (5.2)
63. "Then you must speak/Of one that loved not wisely but too well." (5.2)
64. "The time, the place, the torture—Oh, enforce it!/Myself will straight aboard, and to
the state/This heavy heart relate." (5.2)