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"... much easier in Shakespeare's time wasn't it? Always the same girl dressed up as a man, and even that borrowed from Boccaccio or Dante or somebody. I'm sure if I'd been a Shakespeare hero, the very minute I saw a slim-legged young page-boy I'd have said, 'Ods-bodikins, there's that girl again!'"

Lady Swaffham in *Whose Body* by Dorothy Sayers

ACT ONE

Vocabulary:

1. he keeps me **rustically** at home _____ roughly; crudely
2. **Marry**, sir, be better employed _____ a mild oath, meaning “By the Virgin Mary”
3. that I should come to such **penury** _____ poverty
4. in the **gentle** condition of blood _____ (n. gentility) – noble (n. nobility)
5. I will **physic** your rankness _____ cure
6. I would **be loath** to **foil** him _____ loath=hate; foil=overthrow; defeat
7. Fortune makes Nature’s **natural** the cutter-off of Nature’s wit _____ fool; idiot
8. **Peradventure** this is not Fortune’s work _____ perhaps
9. yet was not the knight **forsworn** _____ guilty of breaking an oath
10. I **would** it [my strength] were with you. _____ wish
11. You should not have mocked me before. But **come your ways** _____ come along
12. I should have given him tears unto **entreaties** _____ pleadings
13. The duke is **humorous** _____ moody; irritable
14. Firm and irrevocable is my **doom** _____ judgment
15. That do outface it with their **semblances**. _____ appearances; disguises

Journal Prompts:

1. Draw family trees for the de Boys family and for Duke Senior’s family.
2. Compare and contrast Oliver and Orlando.
3. Write a mock diary entry or letter from the point of view of either Oliver or Orlando, summarizing the conflict between them.
4. Write a modern-day news report about the wrestling match between Charles and Orlando.

Quotes:

1. *“But let your fair eyes and gentle wishes go with me to my trial, wherein if I be foiled, there is but one shamed that was never gracious; if killed, but one dead that is willing to be so.”*

Speaker:

To whom: Orlando

Situation: Rosalind and Celia

Meaning: They’re pleading with him not to wrestle Charles.

He asks their blessing on the match, saying that it doesn’t matter if he loses because he has no pride to lose and does not care if he dies. He goes on to explain that no one would miss him.

2. *"I would thou hadst been son to some man else;
The world esteem'd thy father honourable
But I did find him still mine enemy."*

Speaker: Duke Frederick

To whom: Orlando

Situation: The duke just learned that Orlando is the son of Sir Roland de Boys.

Meaning: Duke Frederick expresses his disappointment, stating that Sir Roland was his enemy.

Reaction of Orlando: Offended, Orlando says he would rather be Sir Roland's youngest (least important) son than to be Frederick's heir.

Reaction of Celia: "Were I my father, coz [cousin], would I do this?" She is astonished at her father's rude behavior.

3. *"Is it possible, on such a sudden, you should fall into so strong a liking with old Sir Roland's youngest son?"*

Speaker: Celia

To whom: Rosalind

Meaning: Is it possible you could have fallen in love with Orlando this quickly?

Comprehension Questions:

1. The play opens with Orlando explaining to old Adam "and there begins my sadness." What is Orlando's problem? His father left him 1,000 crowns in his will and charged Oliver to breed Orlando well, but Oliver has ignored his father's will. He keeps Orlando at home and uneducated, ignores him, and neglects to give him the money.
2. What two choices does Orlando put before Oliver? "Therefore allow me such exercises as may become a gentleman or give me the poor allottery my father left me by testament: with that I will go buy my fortunes." (S1, lines 65-67)
3. How does Oliver treat Adam? What does this show about Oliver's character? He calls him "old dog." This shows Oliver's lack of respect for his father; not only does he ignore his father's will concerning Orlando, but he disrespects his father's beloved, faithful old servant.
4. What is Charles' "old news" about the court? "The old duke [Senior] is banished by his younger brother, the new duke [Frederick], and three or four loving lords have put themselves into voluntary exile with him, whose lands and revenues enrich the new duke [Frederick]; therefore he gives them good leave to wander. ... [Rosalind, Senior's daughter] is at the court [with Frederick and his daughter Celia] and no less beloved of her uncle [Frederick] than his own daughter [Celia], and never two ladies loved as they do." (S1, lines 90-103)

5. How does Oliver attempt to harm Orlando? He slanders Orlando's character to Charles, the wrestler, and tells Charles that if Orlando does not beat him soundly at the wrestling match, Orlando will kill Charles. In this way, he encourages Charles to maim or kill Orlando in the match.
6. In what ways does Celia express her love for Rosalind in Scenes 2 and 3? _____
1. "If my uncle, thy banished father, had banished thy uncle, the duke my father, so thou hadst been still with me, I could have taught my love to take thy father for; so wouldst thou, if the truth of thy love to me were so righteously tempered as mine is to thee." (S2, lines 7-12)
 2. She assures Rosalind that when her father dies and she inherits his estate, she will restore to Rosalind all that he took from her father. (S2, lines 15-20)
 3. She pleads with Duke Frederick on Rosalind's behalf when he banishes Rosalind.
"if she be a traitor, / Why so am I. We still have slept together, / Rose at an instant, learn'd, play'd, eat together, / And wheresoe'er we went, like Juno's swans, / Still we went coupled and inseparable."
"Pronounce that sentence then on me, my liege, / I cannot live out of her company." (S3, lines 64-71; 80-81)
 4. She claims that her father has banished her too, because she and Rosalind are one. "Shall we be sunder'd, shall we part, sweet girl? No, let my father seek another heir! ... Say what thou canst, I'll go along with thee." (S3, lines 89-100)
7. At what characteristic of Duke Frederick and his friends does Touchstone hint in his jests? Touchstone's jests hint at Frederick's knight's (and therefore, Frederick's) lack of honor. Notice that Celia understands what he's hinting at and rebukes him. (S2, lines 75-77)
8. Where does Rosalind first see Orlando? Which of the two addresses the other first? How is this different from what we would expect to see in medieval and Elizabethan romance literature? Rosalind first sees Orlando at the wrestling match in Frederick's court. She initiates the discussion with him. We would expect to see the male initiating a discussion with a woman, not the other way around, especially when this discussion is the beginning of a romance.

9. What is the outcome of the wrestling match between Charles and Orlando? Orlando wins easily; Charles is unconscious.
10. How does Orlando respond when Rosalind speaks to him after the match? He is so enthralled with her that he cannot speak, in spite of his desire to.
11. Give three different quotes of Rosalind's in Scene 3 that reveal her feelings for Orlando.
1. When Celia asks if all Rosalind's pining is for her father, she answers, "No, some of it is for my child's father."
 2. When Celia says to hem away the "burs" causing Rosalind's discomfort, she answers, "I would try, if I could cry 'hem' and have him."
 3. When Celia tells Rosalind to wrestle with her affections [feelings], she answers, "O they take the part of a better wrestler than myself." (i.e., Orlando)
12. What reasons does Duke Frederick give for exiling Rosalind? How long does he give her to leave? What consequence will befall her if she stays? S3, line 50 – "Let it suffice thee that I trust thee not."
S3, line 53 – "Thou art thy father's daughter, there's enough."
S3, lines 72 ff. – (to Celia) "She is too subtle for thee, and her smoothness, / Her very silence, and her patience / Speak to the people and they pity her. / Thou art a fool: she robs thee of thy name / And thou wilt show more bright and seem more virtuous / When she is gone."
13. What is Celia's plan after the Duke banishes Rosalind? What names will the ladies use? Whom will they take with them? Celia will run away with Rosalind to the Forest of Arden to find Rosalind's father Duke Senior. To protect themselves from thieves, the ladies will disguise themselves – Celia as a peasant girl named Aliena, and Rosalind as a young man named Ganymede. They will take Touchstone with them, more for entertainment than protection.
14. Supply a title for each scene in Act I.
- Scene 1 "Feud Between Brothers" (one option)
 - Scene 2 "Rosalind Meets Orlando"
 - Scene 3 "Get You From Our Court"