TWELFTH NIGHT

READING COMPREHENSION

ACT 2

YEAR 3 AND 4

Moments after she had left, when Viola was still near Olivia’s house, when a soberly dressed figure with a very haughty expression approached.

Malvolio had always suspected there’d been a terrible mistake and that he’d been swapped at birth. Somewhere, a Duke and Duchess had been given a really lower- class, common baby, whilst he - their real son - noble, brilliant, dashingly handsome, with a very majestic nose - had been brought up by servants. It had been awful, and now he himself was a servant. Ghastly. But, inside, he knew that he was still better than everyone else and comforted himself by letting them know it. Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, Maria, Feste - better than all of them. And definitely better than this young servant of Orsino’s who couldn’t even grow a beard, and, what’s more, walked as if his trousers had been fashioned out of tree bark.

1. **Who approached Viola moments after she had left Olivia’s house?**

Malcolm Malvolio

Sir Andrew Maria

1. **Tick two synonyms for ‘terrible’?**

Dreadful Beautiful

Awful Delightful

1. **What was the ‘terrible mistake’ that Malvolio was suspicious of? Use direct quote from the text to justify your answer**

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1. **Write down three adjectives Malvolio uses to describe himself?**

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1. **Write down the names of three people Malvolio thought he was better than?**

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1. **Malvolio describes Orsino’s servant as walking**

***‘as if his trousers had been fashioned out of tree bark’.***

**What does he mean by this?**

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Malvolio had had to chase after this servant, almost run - how undignified - to catch up with him.

“Were not you even now with the Countess Olivia?” he panted.

“Even now, sir; on a moderate pace I have since arrived but hither.”

Ah. A joke. How hilarious. About as funny as Feste the Clown. Malvolio decided to punish this youth with one of his Special Looks. This involved speaking to the person without looking at them at all, instead, staring moodily into the distance. That would teach him respect!

“She returns this ring to you, sir: you might have saved me my pains, to have taken it away yourself.”

 He threw the ring contemptuously at Cesario. Or, he would have, if he hadn’t been doing the Special Look. As it was, the ring bounced off a tree and rolled back between Malvolio’s feet. He ignored it nobly.

“She adds, moreover, that you should put your lord into a desperate assurance she will none of him.”

His duty completed, Malvolio turned and left.

1. ***“Were not you even now with the Countess Olivia?” he panted.***

**Read the sentence above.**

**Underline the verb that shows Malvolio was out of breath**

1. **Who does Malvolio think Cesario, the servant, is ‘about as funny as’?**

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1. **What is Malvolio ‘returning’ to Cesario?**

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1. **Tick the antonym for ‘contemptuous’**

**Respectful Resentment**

Viola was puzzled.

“I left no ring with her: what means this lady?”

Staring at the ring for some moments, she started to blush as the truth slowly dawned:

“She loves me, sure! The cunning of her passion invites me in this churlish messenger. None of my lord's ring! Why, he sent her none. I am the man!”

So, a woman - Olivia - is in love with Cesario - who is not a man, but secretly a woman - Viola - who is in love with Orsino - who really is a man, but who loves Olivia, who really is a woman, and Viola, because she is also Cesario, and it is Cesario’s *job*, has to persuade Olivia to marry the man that she - Viola - loves.

1. **Why is Viola puzzled when Malvolio first gives her the ring? Use a direct quote from the text to justify your answer**

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1. **Viola realises Olivia is in love with her.**

**Tick one statement**

**TRUE FALSE**

1. **Write down 2 reasons why it is complicated that Olivia is in love with Viola?**
2. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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1. **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

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TWELFTH NIGHT

ANSWERS

READING COMPREHENSION

ACT 2

YEAR 3 AND 4

1. **Who approached Viola moments after she had left Olivia’s house?**

Malcolm Malvolio

Sir Andrew Maria

1. **Tick two synonyms for ‘terrible’?**

Dreadful Beautiful

Awful Delightful

1. **What was the ‘terrible mistake’ that Malvolio was suspicious of? Use direct quote from the text to justify your answer**

*“That he’d been swapped at birth”.*

That his real mum and dad were a Duke and Duchess

1. **Write down three adjectives Malvolio uses to describe himself?**

noble, brilliant, handsome

1. **Write down the names of three people Malvolio thought he was better than?**

Any three of: Sir Toby, Sir Andrew, Maria, Feste, Orsino

1. **Malvolio describes Orsino’s servant as walking**

***‘as if his trousers had been fashioned out of tree bark’.***

**What does he mean by this?**

That he walked stiffly/awkwardly.

1. ***“Were not you even now with the Countess Olivia?” he panted.***

**Read the sentence above.**

**Underline the verb that shows Malvolio was out of breath**

1. **Who does Malvolio think Cesario, the servant, is ‘about as funny as’?**

Feste the Clown

1. **What is Malvolio ‘returning’ to Cesario?**

A ring

1. **Tick the antonym for ‘contemptuous’**

**Respectful Resentment**

1. **Why is Viola puzzled when Malvolio first gives her the ring? Use a direct quote from the text to justify your answer**

Because she didn’t leave a ring with Olivia:

“I left no ring with her: what means this lady?”

1. **Viola realises Olivia is in love with her.**

**Tick one statement**

**TRUE FALSE**

1. **Write down 2 reasons why it is complicated that Olivia is in love with Viola?**
2. Viola’s boss, Orsino, is in love with Olivia
3. Viola is not in fact who Olivia thinks she is. She is pretending to be Cesario but is in fact Viola.