

Correction of the Exam Paper : Théâtre Classique Anglais / 2021 – 2022

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Exercise 1

- a) A play is the written text that is meant to be performed on stage. On the other hand, Drama is the printed script or the text of a play, while Theatre is the entire on-stage play production, unlike Drama which is abstract, Theatre is a physical, real-life portrayal.
- b) **Comedy** is a genre characterized by humor, light-heartedness, and a happy or amusing ending. **An example of a comedy is William Shakespeare's play "A Midsummer Night's Dream."**

Tragedy is a genre marked by serious and somber themes, often involving a protagonist's downfall or a disastrous conclusion. **An example of a tragedy is William Shakespeare's play "Hamlet."**

Exercise 2

Discuss Love and Forgiveness in William Shakespeare's *As You Like It*

In William Shakespeare's "As You Like It", love and forgiveness are central themes that drive the narrative and development of characters.

Love in "As You Like It" is portrayed in various forms, challenging the conventions of courtly love and ridiculing the idea that love is a disease that brings suffering. The play presents love as a force for happiness and fulfillment. For instance, Rosalind, disguised as Ganymede, teaches Orlando how to be a more attentive lover, counsels Silvius against prostrating himself for Phoebe, and scolds Phoebe for her arrogance. By the end of the play, Rosalind successfully orchestrates four marriages, proving that love is a source of incomparable delight.

Forgiveness, on the other hand, is a theme that emerges as conflicts are resolved throughout the play. For example, Orlando forgives his brother Oliver, who had plotted to kill him, and saves him from a

lioness. This act of forgiveness showcases the nature of brotherly love and the capacity to forgive grave mistakes. Similarly, Duke Frederick realizes his wrongful acts of banishing his brother and gives up everything back to Duke Senior, who forgives him. The theme of forgiveness is crucial in the play as it leads to happy endings and the restoration of order.

In conclusion, "As You Like It" explores the themes of love and forgiveness in depth, demonstrating their transformative power and their ability to bring about happiness and harmony.