

Solution: The Play's the Thing

Step 1: match up play with log line

King Lear

MacBeth

The Merchant of Venice

A Midsummer Night's Dream

Othello,

The Taming of the Shrew

A man divor<u>c</u>es one wife and marries another, who gives birth to a future queen.

After her pretend suicide fails to achieve her goals, queen uses <u>s</u>nake to commit suicide for reals.

Angsty young man kills girlfriend's father and brother, then his own stepfather.

Anti-Semitic court sen<u>t</u>ences moneylender to death.

Attempted seductions lead to embarrassment.

Girl sows conf**u**sion by dressing up as a boy.

Husband has servant drug wife and bystand<u>ers</u> to cause a distraction while he kidnaps wife's child.

Irresponsible clergy<u>m</u>an assists teens with suicide pact.

Jealous hus<u>b</u>and murders wife, then commits suicide to escape arrest.

King disinherits daughter for <u>t</u>elling him that she does not love him more than future husband.

King gives rousing speech; army wins battle.

Left at altar, girl's family fakes her death to make her fiancé $\underline{\mathbf{f}}$ eel bad.

Magician enslaves indigenous population on isla<u>n</u>d, then uses his powers to shipwreck his brother's family.

Man is led astray by his belief in the occult.

Man marries woman against her will and then deprives her of food, sleep, clothing, and she<u>l</u>ter until she obeys him without question.

Wife convinces virginal girl to preten<u>d</u> to be whore so that wife can get philandering husband into bed.



Solution: The Play's the Thing

Step 2: Arrange matched pairs in rainbow order (red, orange, yellow, green, blue, violet)

The Tamin <mark>g</mark> of the Shrew	Man marries woman against her will and then deprives her of food, sleep, clothing, and she <u>l</u> ter until she obeys him without question.
Othello_	Jealous hus <u>b</u> and murders wife, then commits suicide to escape arrest.
The Merchant of V <u>e</u> nice	Anti-Semitic court sen <u>tences moneylender to</u> death.
MacBet <u>h</u>	Man is led astray by his belief in the occult.
King Le <u>a</u> r	King disinherits daughter for <u>t</u> elling him that she does not love him more than future husband.
A Midsummer Night's D <u>r</u> eam	Husband has servant drug wife and bystand <u>ers</u> to cause a distraction while he kidnaps wife's child.

Step 3: Read special letter pairs (colored, underlined bold) to get answer



Play-matching, for the curious

All's Well that Ends Well	Wife convinces virginal girl to pretend to be whore so that wife can get philandering husband into bed.
Antony and Cleopatra	After her pretend suicide fails to achieve her goals, queen uses snake to commit suicide for reals.
Hamlet	Angsty young man kills girlfriend's father and brother, then his own stepfather.
Henry V	King gives rousing speech; army wins battle.
Henry VIII	A man divorces one wife and marries another, who gives birth to a future queen.
King Lear	King disinherits daughter for telling him that she does not love him more than future husband.
MacBeth	Man is led astray by his belief in the occult.
Merchant of Venice	Anti-Semitic court sentences moneylender to death.
Midsummer Night's Dream	Husband has servant drug wife and several bystanders to cause a distraction while he kidnaps wife's adopted child.
Much Ado About Nothing	Left at altar, girl's family fakes her death to make her fiancé feel bad.
Othello	Jealous husband murders wife, then commits suicide to escape arrest.
Romeo and Juliet	Irresponsible clergyman assists teens with suicide pact.
Taming of the Shrew	Man marries woman against her will and then deprives her of food, sleep, clothing, and shelter until she obeys him without question.
The Merry Wives of Windsor (and others)	Attempted seductions lead to embarrassment.
The Tempest	Magician enslaves indigenous population on island, then uses his powers to shipwreck his brother's family.
Twelfth Night (and others)	Girl sows confusion by dressing up as a boy.