

**Act One**  
**Scene Guide**

*As you read **A Midsummer Night's Dream**, you will complete a scene guide which will help you keep track of the characters and events of the play. It is not necessary to write using complete sentences, but it is important that you fill out the guide completely and accurately as you read.*

**Scene One**

<b>Characters Involved/Introduced</b>
<b>Setting (Where does the scene take place?)</b>
<b>Action (What happened?)</b>
<b>What do you think will happen next?</b>

**Scene Two**

<b>Characters Involved/Introduced</b>
<b>Setting (Where does the scene take place?)</b>
<b>Action (What happened?)</b>
<b>What do you think will happen next?</b>

## **Act One**

### ***Comprehension Check***

*This exercise is meant to ensure that you have understood Act One by asking you to recall its details. Answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper in complete sentences. Some answers are quite simple, while others require more thought.*

#### **Scene One**

1. When we are introduced to Theseus and Hippolyta they are awaiting and planning a particular event. What is it?
2. Who is Hermia in love with? Who does Egeus want Hermia to marry?
3. Why is Egeus mad at Lysander?
4. What right does Egeus have if Hermia refuses to follow her father's orders?
5. From the fact that Egeus has the right to choose his daughter's spouse and Theseus' agreement with Egeus's claim, what can you tell about women's rights in Athens at this time? What are the rights of men? What is more important: love or duty? How do you know?
6. What three choices does Theseus give to Hermia? What is Hermia's response?
7. Who do you think Shakespeare wants the audience to sympathize with: Egeus or Hermia? How do you know?
8. What evidence does Lysander give against Demetrius' character? What does he say of his own worthiness?
9. Who does Lysander suggest marry Demetrius? Why?
10. What does Lysander mean when he says "The course of true love never did run smooth"? Do you agree? Why or why not?
11. What is Lysander's plan?
12. When Hermia and Lysander meet Helena, what kind of mood is Helena in? How can you tell?
13. How does Helena feel towards Hermia? Why?
14. What does Helena wish for?
15. What does Helena decide to do at the end of the scene? What does she hope will happen?

#### **Scene Two**

1. In this scene we are introduced to a group of men who seem to be having a meeting; what is this meeting about?
2. Who seems to be in charge of the meeting (the one who assigns the parts)?
3. Why doesn't Flute want to play Thisbe?
4. What part is Bottom assigned? What part(s) does he also want to play? What is your impression of Bottom?
5. Where do the men agree to rehearse? Why do they not want to rehearse in town?