

Taming of the Shrew

Act 4.4 Study/Discussion Questions

Directions: Discuss these questions in a small group and then write your own responses on a separate sheet of paper.

1. How should the part of the merchant be played? What famous actors would be good in this roll?

2. What do you think is going on with Baptista and the pretend Lucentio & Vincentio? What does this show us about the role of women in society?

3. Read lines 74-106- Biondello's conversation with Lucentio (the real one). What purpose do these lines serve? What would be lost if the whole passage was cut, as it is often done in performance? (It is completely gone in the film version)

4. Is Biondello smarter than his master, Lucentio? Can you think of any other examples where the servant seems to be more knowledgeable than the master? What purpose does this serve?

1.