**Act 1, Scene 1**

1. Who is Lucentio and what is his familial situation? Why is he in Padua?

2. Tranio, Lucentio’s servant, reminds him that “no profit grows where is no pleasure ta’en: / In brief, sir, study what you most affect...” What does he mean?

3. Describe Katherine’s character. In what ways do she and her sister Bianca differ? How do you think Shakespeare intended for his audience to view her?

4. Lucentio says of Bianca, “But in the other’s silence do I see / Maid’s mild behaviour and sobriety.” What does this suggest about the view of a woman’s role in society during Shakespeare’s era?

5. What is Gremio’s feelings regarding the way in which Baptista treats Bianca? Why does he feel this way?

6. Hortensio believes that finding a husband for Katherine is plausible. What type of man does he think would accept Katherine? What kind of man to you imagine Katherine with?

7. Explain the elaborate scheme Lucentio and Tranio devise to allow Lucentio to woo Bianca.

8. What is the purpose of Sly’s reappearance at the end of the scene? What do Sly’s story and the story that is beginning in Padua have in common?

**Act 1, Scene 2**

1. How does a pun play into Petruchio’s conversation with his servant Grumio in the opening lines of this scene? What does this exchange tell you about Petruchio?

2. What are your first impressions of Petruchio? What is he doing in Padua?

3. What is Petruchio’s reasoning for wanting to take on a difficult wife?

4. In this play, various characters beguile others in order to get what they want. How does Lucentio decieve Gremio? And how does Hortensio trick Petruchio into wanting a difficult wife?

5. Describe Grumio. What is his purpose in this scene?

6. What causes Bianca’s suitors to join forces?