

# Writing style in Othello

- Verse
- > Prose

> Irony



## Verse:

- Othello is written in blank verse
- Blank verse consists of unrhymed iambic pentameters, with five stressed syllables and five unstressed syllables to each line
- He uses this traditional form of flexibly, varying the pace of his writing to achieve specific effects
- He creates specific idioms for each of his character

## Prose:

- Ordinary written language with no rhyme; organized in sentences
- Prose used for low status characters
- Proclamation, written challenges, letters, comedic moments and to express madness
- Shakespeare uses prose for familiar relationship

# Irony:

- Othello is an essentially ironic play
- Shakespeare offers lago some of the best language in the play wright's whole body of work
- His language makes him someone they trust
- lago doesn't look like the villain he is

## About play

- Shakespeare's play Othello written in 1904 and based on the Italian short story Un Capitano Moro (A Moorish Captain)
- Othello is one of Shakespeare's most highly concentrated, tightly constructed tragedies with no subplots and little humor to relieve the tension
- Othello is set in a private world and focuses on the passions and personal lives of its major figures

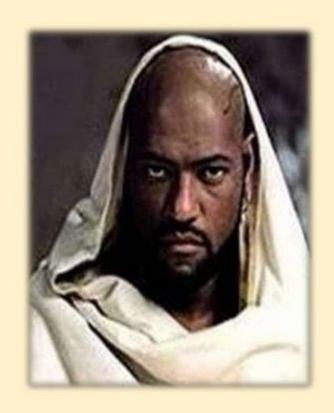
# Theme In Othello

- Jealousy
- Warfare
- Hate
- Identity
- Race
- Manipulation
- Marriage

#### Main Characters

## > Othello:

- General of the Venice army
- The position of General is the highly respected position of power
- Othello is a Moor (a native of North Africa, usually a Muslim)
- Eloquent and powerful figure



#### Desdemona:

- The daughter of the Venetian senator Brabantio
- · Othello's wife
- Desdemona is also determined and self possessed



# > lago:

- Blackest of all the Shakespeareans villains
- Villain of the play
- Othello ensign, a twenty year old military veteran from Venice
- He is obsessive, relentless, bold and ingenious in his efforts to manipulate and deceive the other characters.
- lago's motivations are not notoriously murky.



## > Emilia:

- lago's wife and Desdemona's attendant
- A cynical and worldly woman
- She is deeply attached to her mistress and distrustful to her husband



# > Roderigo:

- A jealous suitor of Desdemona
- Young, rich, and foolish Roderigo is convinced that if he give lago all of his money
- lago will help him Desdemona's hand
- He is frustrated because Othello marries Desdemona



## Othello Symbols

> Handkerchief:

The significance of red is love, red strawberries like red heart on love token handkerchief



## > Candle

The candle Othello blows out just before the murder of Desdemona

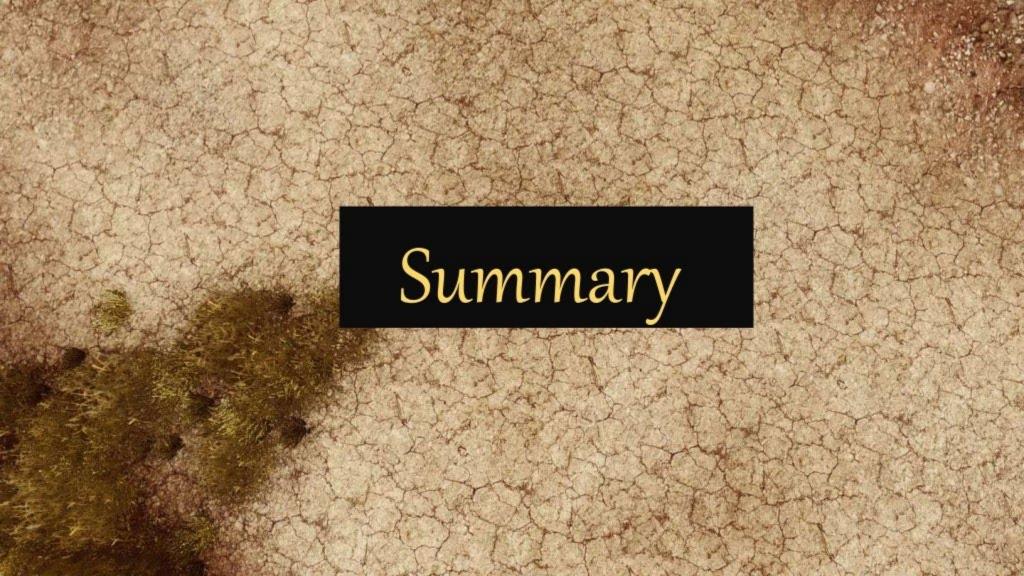


#### Location

- Shakespeare uses different locations to represent the mindset
- In Othello Venice represent civilization while Cyprus symbolize wilderness







- On a street in Venice, there is an argument between Roderigo, a noble man and lago, a Captain in the defense of forces
- Roderigo in love with the noble lady Desdemona, has paid large sums of money to lago on the understanding that lago would give her gifts from him and praise him to her. Roderigo hopes to win Desdemona's love and marry her

- However, they now have news that Desdemona has left the house of her father, Brabantio and eloped with Othello
- Roderigo fears he has lost both his lady and his money
- Iago reveals Roderigo that it is in his (Iago's) nature to plot and tell lies to what he wants and that he has a plan
- He hates Othello for promoting Cassio to the position of lieutenant, a position that lago wanted for himself

- lago plans to bring about Othello's downfall and Roderigo( he says) will have Desdemona
- Othello mistakenly places his trust in lago, who is Othello's close friend and confident
- lago carefully weaves trap after trap Othello's trusted aides, turning him against them and eventually even turns Othello against his wife

 Iago also plays Roderigo false; instead of winning Desdemona for Roderigo, he betrays him and murders him



# Quotations

"I am not what I am "

(Shakespeare, Othello)

"The robbed that smile, steals something from the thief"

( Shakespeare , Othello)

# Shakespearean tragedy

- Tragedy is concerned primarily with the tragic hero.
- Tragedy involves a person of high estate therefore, his or her fate affects the welfare of whole nation or empire.
- The hero is undergoes to a sudden reversal of fortune.
- Shakespeare often introduces abnormal conditions of mind (such as , insanity)
- Supernatural elements are also introduced.

- The ultimate power in the tragic world is moral order;
  more specifically the struggle between good and evil
- Much of plot seems to hinge on "chance" or "accident".
- Besides the outward conflict between the individuals or group of individuals, there is also an inner conflict and torment within the soul of tragic hero.
- The central impression of the tragedy is one of waste.