

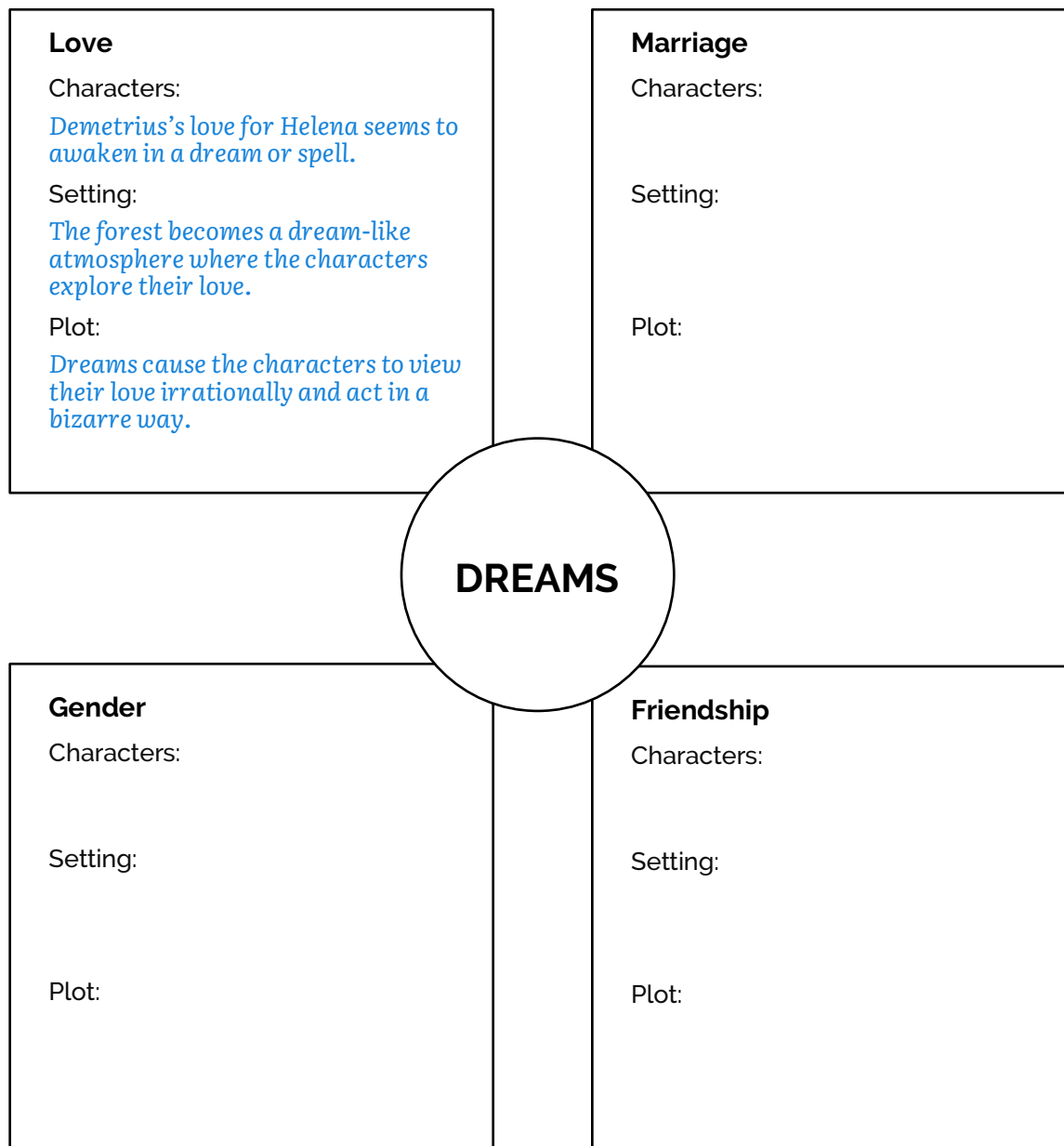


A Midsummer Night's Dream Exploring

Theme: Dreams

Dreams comprise a major theme in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. The act of dreaming, nightmares, dreams representing wishes and desires, dreams blurring one's understanding of reality—these are just some of the dream-related concepts Shakespeare explores in the play.

Use the graphic organizer to map how the theme of dreams relates to four additional themes in the play—love, marriage, gender, and friendship. Use the boxes to break down how Shakespeare builds these themes through three major literary elements: character, setting, and plot. Then, write a response to the prompt.



How does the theme of dreams relate to the play's other themes of love, marriage, gender, and friendship? What statement is Shakespeare making about the nature of dreams through these themes?

RL.11-12.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

RL.11-12.2 Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.