



A Midsummer Night's Dream Dreamer or Realist?

Every character in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has something to say about dreams, imagination, and the nature of reality. Through these characters, Shakespeare creates an array of opinions to develop and explore these themes. Some characters are open to the idea that reality might not be what it seems, while others are not.

In column 2: Record a quote spoken by the character from column 1 in which he or she discusses or muses on dreams and dreaming. Remember to cite the quote's location in the text. Beneath each quote, write one or two sentences explaining the quote's meaning.

In column 3: Explain whether this character is a dreamer, a realist, or both.

After you've completed the chart, respond to the prompt below.

Character	Quote	Dreamer or Realist?
Theseus	<i>More strange than true. I never may believe These antique fables nor these fairy toys.</i> (No Fear: 5.1.2-3) <i>Theseus is saying that he doesn't believe the strange tales that Hermia and the others are telling about their night in the forest. He doesn't believe in stories and "fairy toys."</i>	<i>Theseus seems like a realist. He doesn't entertain the idea that fairies might exist.</i>
Hippolyta	<i>But all the story of the night told over, And all their minds transfigured so together, More witnesseth than fancy's images And grows to something of great constancy, But, howsoever, strange and admirable.</i> (No Fear: 5.1.23-27) <i>Hippolyta notices that the tales Hermia and the others are telling are strange, but they all seem to line up.</i>	<i>Hippolyta seems like a mix between a dreamer and a realist. She's not willing to dismiss the stories as made up, but she also won't say that fairies don't exist.</i>
Oberon		

Titania		
Puck		
Lysander		
Hermia		
Demetrius		

Helena		
Bottom		

Choose one character from the chart. Analyze how this character's actions and opinions help advance the theme of dreams and reality in the play.

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.11-12.3 Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).