Much Ado About Nothing Prose in the Play

1. Define *prose*:

2. Read the following excerpt from *Much Ado About Nothing*. Identify it as prose or verse, and explain how you know.

Benedick

A miracle! Here's our own hands against our hearts. Come, I will have thee, but, by this light, I take thee for pity.

Beatrice

I would not deny you, but by this good day, I yield upon great persuasion, and partly to save your life, for I was told you were in a consumption.

(No Fear: 5.4.95-99)

3. Would Shakespeare likely represent a speech in which Hero explains how she feels about her marriage in prose or verse? Explain.

4. Would Shakespeare likely represent a speech in which Beatrice describes a party she attended in prose or verse? Explain.

5. Find a piece of text (not from *Much Ado About Nothing*) written in prose. Explain why it is written in prose and why that is significant.