



Much Ado About Nothing Character Focus: Hero

Much of the drama in Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* revolves around the relationship between Hero and Claudio. However, Hero has remarkably little to say. So what is Hero really like? As you read Acts 1 through 3, use this chart to make notes about Hero's personality, paying attention both to how she reveals her personality through her own words and actions and how others perceive her. Then, use your completed chart to answer the question below.

Text about Hero	What Text Says	What Text Reveals about Hero
Hero Now, Ursula, when Beatrice doth come, As we do trace this alley up and down, Our talk must only be of Benedick. When I do name him, let it be thy part To praise him more than ever man did merit. My talk to thee must be how Benedick Is sick in love with Beatrice. (No Fear: 3.1.15–21)	<i>Hero and Ursula will talk about how much Benedick loves Beatrice and how wonderful he is. Hero will praise him extensively to help convince Beatrice.</i>	<i>She is a romantic because she wants to fix up her cousin with a partner.</i>
Claudio In mine eye she is the sweetest lady that ever I looked on. (No Fear: 1.1.146)	<i>Claudio thinks Hero is the most wonderful woman he has ever met.</i>	<i>Hero is appealing.</i>

Now review what you've recorded in column 3 about Hero's traits. Based on this list, do you think it makes sense that Hero did not speak up at the wedding and defend herself? Explain.

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.11-12.6 Analyze a case in which grasping a point of view requires distinguishing what is directly stated in a text from what is really meant (e.g., satire, sarcasm, irony, or understatement).

W.11-12.3 Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences.

Answer Key

Sample Student Response

Now review what you've recorded in column 3 about Hero's traits. Based on this list, do you think it makes sense that Hero did not speak up at the wedding and defend herself? Explain.

No, I do not. While Hero often remains silent and lets others think what they want about her, she did take decisive action in another important matter: getting Beatrice and Benedick together. This action shows that she has gumption.