



The Taming of the Shrew

Theme: Marriage and Gender

After you have read *The Taming of the Shrew*, complete the charts with information about the characteristics of each marriage that has formed at the end of the play. Explain what each character sees as his or her role in the marriage as well as how each character evolved throughout the play. Think about how people of different genders were treated during Shakespeare's time as you complete each chart.

Marriage 1: Katherine and Petruchio	
Katherine	Petruchio
<p><i>She starts off not wanting to marry anyone.</i></p> <p><i>She surprisingly agrees to marry Petruchio.</i></p> <p><i>By the end of the play, she believes wives should obey their husbands.</i></p>	<p><i>He starts off looking for a rich wife.</i></p> <p><i>He hears of Katherine and decides he will marry her.</i></p> <p><i>He seems to like her spirit but wants to "tame" her.</i></p> <p><i>After they marry, he "tames" her by denying her food, rest, and a wardrobe.</i></p>

RL.9-10.2 Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

Marriage 2: Bianca and Lucentio	
Bianca	Lucentio

Marriage 3: The Widow and Hortensio	
The Widow	Hortensio