

Name: _____

Date: _____

Quiz: *Othello*, Act 1, Scenes 1 and 2

1. Why are Rodrigo and Iago arguing when the play begins?

- (a) Rodrigo paid Iago to help him woo Desdemona, but it hasn't worked out.
- (b) Rodrigo asked Iago to give him a promotion, but without success.
- (c) Iago thought Rodrigo would help overthrow Othello, but he won't.
- (d) Rodrigo believes Iago has seduced Desdemona, but he hasn't.

2. What does Iago cite as the reason why he should be lieutenant?

- (a) His close friendship with Othello.
- (b) His longstanding protection of Desdemona.
- (c) His experience and the fact that others have recommended him.
- (d) His innovative ideas for winning the war.

3. Who has been promoted over Iago?

- (a) Cassio
- (b) Rodrigo
- (c) Brabantio
- (d) Othello

4. Why is Brabantio initially skeptical of Rodrigo's accusations?

- (a) He doesn't think Othello has ever met Desdemona.
- (b) He has told Rodrigo to stay away from Desdemona.
- (c) He has a longtime suspicion of Iago and Rodrigo.
- (d) He thinks Rodrigo keeps changing his story.

5. What does Iago claim about Desdemona and Othello?

- (a) They are planning to kill Brabantio.
- (b) They have duped Rodrigo.
- (c) They have had sex.
- (d) They have eloped to London.

6. Which of the following are terms used to describe Othello?

- (a) "sooty bosom" (Act 1, Scene 2, line 89).
- (b) "thick lips" (1.1.72)
- (c) "an old black ram" (1.1.97)
- (d) all of the above

7. What does Othello do when Brabantio's men come after him at the inn?

- (a) He runs and hides.
- (b) He draws his sword, stabbing Brabantio.
- (c) He stands his ground.
- (d) He asks for help.