*Answer the following questions in full and complete sentences. Use support from the play as required.*

1. Summarize Shylock’s character traits within Act 1 and Act 2. What do you know about him and what do you think about him, based on his actions and speeches?
2. Why does Shylock agree to meet Bassanio for dinner at the end of Act 2 scene 2?
3. How does Shylock perceive himself as a master and a father? Give evidence to support your answer.
4. What do the two men say about the nature of love? What view of love does Gratiano take? What kind of boyfriend do you think he would be?
5. Do you think Jessica will be happy with Lorenzo? Explain why or why not.
6. How does Morocco’s mind work, that is, what do his words say about who he is? Based on his reasoning, what is his opinion of Portia? Where do his priorities lie?
7. Is Portia racist? Give evidence to support your claim.
8. After Act 2, scene 8, what do you think Shylock values more – his lost money or his lost daughter? What might Shakespeare be saying about Jewish people in this scene?
9. How impact does Jessica’s running away with Lorenzo have on Shylock’s bond with Antonio?
10. What impression do you get about Antonio’s and Bassanio’s relationship based on Salerio’s description of their parting?
11. What is Aragon’s logic in selecting the silver casket? How does his logic reveal his character? How is his thinking different from Morocco’s? Is he more or less intelligent than Morocco?

