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

1. Compare Antonio’s mood as he goes into trial with his mood at the beginning of 1.1. Explain the change.
2. How is others’ treatment of their slaves comparable to Shylock’s treatment of his ‘pound of flesh,’ according to Shylock? How does this argument test Venetian law
3. How do those in the courtroom react to Shylock? How would you describe their behavior? How is their behavior similar to and different from behavior towards him in the streets of Venice? Find evidence from the text for your comparison.
4. Why is Shylock so adamant about the law and in his refusal to grant mercy, despite the offer of double and triple repayment? What is greater than his religion and his love of money?
5. Briefly summarize the following character’s involvement in and reaction to the trial proceedings:
6. Portia b. Bassanio c. Gratanio
7. What mercy does the Duke show? Before he gives his punishment, the Duke tells Shylock that he will “see the difference of our spirit” (l.367). What is the spirit of the Venetians, and by extension, Christians?
8. Was the trial fair? Explain with support.
9. How does the outcome of the trial help make this play a comedy?
10. Why would Portia ask Bassanio for the ring he had promised not to give away? What does this say about her character?
11. What excuse does Bassanio give the disguised Portia for not initially giving her his wedding ring?
12. How easy is it for Antonio to change Bassanio’s mind? What does Antonio say Bassanio should value more than the ring?