Chapter 10: The Trial Scene

Fill-in-the-Blanks

1. Shylock is a Jewish _____.
2. Antonio signed a bond agreeing to forfeit a _____ of his flesh.
3. The trial takes place in the court of _____.
4. Portia disguises herself as a _____.
5. Nerissa disguises herself as Portia's _____.
6. The Duke requests _____ to show mercy to Antonio.
7. Shylock insists on taking the _____ as per the bond.
8. Doctor Bellario sends a letter recommending a young _____.
9. Portia asks Shylock if he has brought a _____ to weigh the flesh.
10. The bond does not allow Shylock to shed any _____.
11. Shylock is offered _____ times the loan amount as repayment.

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12. Portia declares that if Shylock sheds blood, his property will be confiscated by the _____.
13. Shylock is accused of plotting against the life of a _____.
14. The Duke spares Shylock's life but confiscates _____ of his wealth.
15. Antonio suggests Shylock leave his property to his _____ and _____.
16. Portia refuses any _____ for her services.
17. The Duke advises Antonio to _____ the young lawyer.
18. Shylock exits the court claiming he is _____.
19. The bond specifies the flesh must be cut from near Antonio's _____.
20. Portia's real identity is revealed only to the _____.
21. Shylock calls Portia a "_____" for her judgment.

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22. Antonio's friend Bassanio offers to pay _____ the loan amount.

23. The law of Venice cannot be _____ to suit the case.

24. Shylock takes a solemn _____ to claim the penalty.

25. Portia's argument hinges on a _____ in the bond's wording.

26. The Duke initially hopes _____ will arrive to resolve the case.

27. Shylock's defeat symbolizes the triumph of _____ over vengeance.

28. Antonio's willingness to forgive Shylock shows his _____.

29. The scene ends with Portia and Nerissa maintaining their _____.

30. The play 'The Merchant of Venice' is written by _____.

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Multiple Choice Questions

1. Why does Shylock refuse to accept Bassanio's offer of thrice the loan amount?

(a) Because he wants to teach Antonio a lesson for insulting him in public.
(b) Because he has sworn an oath to claim the penalty and hates Antonio.
(c) Because he believes the law of Venice must be followed strictly.
(d) All of the above.

2. What is the critical flaw in Shylock's bond that Portia exploits?

(a) The bond does not specify which part of the body the flesh should be taken from.
(b) The bond allows Shylock to take a pound of flesh but not a single drop of blood.
(c) The bond was never signed properly in front of witnesses.
(d) The bond expires if not claimed within a month.

3. How does the Duke initially react to Shylock's demand for the penalty?

(a) He urges Shylock to show mercy and accept repayment instead.

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(b) He orders Antonio to pay the debt immediately.

(c) He postpones the trial until Bellario arrives.

(d) He threatens Shylock with imprisonment for cruelty.

4. What is Antonio's final condition for sparing Shylock's life and wealth?

(a) Shylock must convert to Christianity.

(b) Shylock must leave Venice forever.

(c) Shylock must will his property to his daughter and wife.

(d) Shylock must apologize publicly.

5. Why does Portia insist Shylock prepare a surgeon before cutting the flesh?

(a) To mock Shylock's lack of medical knowledge.

(b) To highlight that the bond does not permit Antonio's death.

(c) To ensure Antonio survives and Shylock is punished.

(d) To follow Venetian medical laws.

6. What does Shylock's exclamation, "A Daniel come to judgment!" signify?

(a) He admires Portia's wisdom in interpreting the law.

(b) He sarcastically compares Portia to the biblical judge Daniel.

(c) He realizes he has been outwitted by a legal technicality.

(d) Both (a) and (b).

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7. How does the Duke punish Shylock for conspiring against Antonio's life?

(a) Half of Shylock's wealth goes to Antonio, half to the state.
(b) Shylock is banished from Venice.
(c) Shylock is forced to work for Antonio.
(d) Shylock must pay a heavy fine.

8. What role does Nerissa play in the trial scene?

(a) She disguises as Portia's clerk to deliver Bellario's letter.
(b) She secretly advises Shylock on legal strategies.
(c) She testifies against Antonio's merchant dealings.
(d) She begs the Duke for mercy on Antonio's behalf.

9. Why does Antonio show mercy to Shylock despite the latter's cruelty?

(a) To prove his moral superiority as a Christian.
(b) To ensure Shylock's family inherits his wealth.
(c) To avoid further conflict in Venice.
(d) Because Portia advises him to do so.

10. What theme does the trial scene highlight the most?

(a) The power of love over hatred.
(b) The conflict between justice and mercy.
(c) The importance of wealth in society.
(d) The corruption of legal systems.

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