



[http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

## CONTENTS

Listening / Reading Script	2	Mark The Spaces	9
Poster / Trailer	3	Discussion	10
Synonym / Phrase Match	4	Survey	11
Listening Gap Fill	5	Writing	12
Correct The Spelling	6	Homework	13
Punctuate The Text	7	Answers	14
Insert The Vowels	8		

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# THE LISTENING / READING SCRIPT

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

*Much Ado About Nothing* is a 2012 American independent romantic comedy written, produced, and directed by Joss Whedon. It is based on William Shakespeare's play of the same name. It was filmed in black and white at Whedon's home in California over a period of 12 days. The cast and crew were informed to keep the project a secret until production was finished. Whedon explained his initial interest in the project, saying: "I fixated on this notion that our ideas of romantic love are created for us by the society around us....It's a very cynical, romantic text about love, and how we behave, and how we're expected to behave. It's a party, but there's something darker there as well."

*Much Ado About Nothing* has received generally positive reviews from critics, earning a 79% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes. John DeFore of 'The Hollywood Reporter' said: "More than most adaptations, this is a film true to Shakespeare's practice of employing all means at hand to keep the crowd entertained". A.O. Scott of the 'New York Times' said the film was, "perhaps the liveliest and most purely delightful movie I have seen so far this year" and that it, "draws out the essential screwball nature of Shakespeare's comedy". He added: "Whedon's film crackles with a busy, slightly wayward energy that recalls the classic romantic sparring of the studio era."

Sources: [http://movies.nytimes.com/2013/06/07/movies/much-ado-about-nothing-directed-by-joss-whedon.html?\\_r=0](http://movies.nytimes.com/2013/06/07/movies/much-ado-about-nothing-directed-by-joss-whedon.html?_r=0)  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Much\\_Ado\\_About\\_Nothing\\_%282012\\_film%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Much_Ado_About_Nothing_%282012_film%29)





# TRAILER AND POSTER

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

## POSTER

**1. SIX WORDS:** Look at the poster and write down six words (more if you like) that you think of as you look at it. Share the words with your partner(s). Why did you choose them?

You can find posters for this movie at [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) or [www.imbd.com](http://www.imbd.com) - just type the name of the movie in the search field.

**2. STORY:** Talk about what you think the story of the movie is – the start, beginning, end, etc. Change partners and share stories.

**3. CREDITS:** Look at the credits on the poster (the actors, director, producer...) and talk about them with your partner(s).

**4. MUST-SEE:** Talk with your partner(s) about whether the poster and movie title are good and make you want to see the movie.

**5. STARRING YOU:** Imagine you are one of the stars of the movie. Talk about your role with your movie star partner(s).

## TRAILER

**1. RETELL:** Watch the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).

The official trailer: <http://www.youtube.com>

**2. CHUNKS:** Watch 10-to-15 second chunks of the trailer and retell what you saw to your partner(s).

**3. QUIZ:** Watch the trailer and write down some quiz questions for your partner(s). Watch a second time to find the answers to the questions.

**4. VOCABULARY:** Make a note of words in the trailer that you see or hear. Talk about them with your partner(s).

**5. GOOD / BAD:** Watch the trailer and write down why you think the film might be good or bad. Share your ideas with your partner(s).





# MATCHING

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

## SYNONYM MATCH

- |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. cast      | a. crazy                |
| 2. informed  | b. focused              |
| 3. fixated   | c. overall              |
| 4. notion    | d. available            |
| 5. darker    | e. actors               |
| 6. generally | f. more sinful          |
| 7. critics   | g. brings back memories |
| 8. at hand   | h. told                 |
| 9. screwball | i. idea                 |
| 10. recalls  | j. reviewers            |

## PHRASE MATCH

- |                                   |                         |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Shakespeare's play             | a. reviews from critics |
| 2. the cast                       | b. crowd entertained    |
| 3. informed to keep               | c. there as well        |
| 4. how we're expected             | d. approval rating      |
| 5. there's something darker       | e. the project a secret |
| 6. received generally positive    | f. of the same name     |
| 7. 79%                            | g. of the studio era    |
| 8. employing all means            | h. to behave            |
| 9. keep the                       | i. and crew             |
| 10. the classic romantic sparring | j. at hand              |





## LISTENING / READING GAP FILL

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

*Much Ado About Nothing* (1) \_\_\_\_\_ romantic comedy written, produced, and directed by Joss Whedon. It is based on William Shakespeare's play of the same name. (2) \_\_\_\_\_ at Whedon's home in California over a period of 12 days. The cast and crew were informed (3) \_\_\_\_\_ until production was finished. Whedon explained his initial interest in the project, saying: "I (4) \_\_\_\_\_ that our ideas of romantic love are created for us by the society around us....It's a very (5) \_\_\_\_\_ love, and how we behave, and how we're expected to behave. It's a party, but there's (6) \_\_\_\_\_ well."

*Much Ado About Nothing* has (7) \_\_\_\_\_ reviews from critics, earning (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Rotten Tomatoes. John DeFore of 'The Hollywood Reporter' said: "(9) \_\_\_\_\_, this is a film true to Shakespeare's practice of employing all means at hand to keep the crowd entertained". A.O. Scott of the 'New York Times' said the film was, "(10) \_\_\_\_\_ most purely delightful movie I have seen so far this year" and that it, "draws out the (11) \_\_\_\_\_ of Shakespeare's comedy". He added: "Whedon's film crackles with a busy, slightly wayward energy that recalls the (12) \_\_\_\_\_ of the studio era."





# CORRECT THE SPELLING

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

## Paragraph 1

1. a 2012 American ennpeddniet romantic comedy
2. asedb on William Shakespeare's play
3. crew were dmeornfi to keep the project a secret
4. his ilitnia interest
5. I fixated on this nnotoi
6. a very lciycan, romantic text

## Paragraph 2

7. nyrgelale positive reviews
8. a 79% aoaprply rating
9. most asatpnodait
10. keep the crowd etainnetrde
11. purely illdutfegh
12. thylgsli wayward energy





# PUNCTUATE & PUT CAPITALS IN THE TEXT

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

*much ado about nothing* is a 2012 american independent romantic comedy written produced and directed by joss whedon it is based on william shakespeare's play of the same name it was filmed in black and white at whedon's home in california over a period of 12 days the cast and crew were informed to keep the project a secret until production was finished whedon explained his initial interest in the project saying "i fixated on this notion that our ideas of romantic love are created for us by the society around us...it's a very cynical romantic text about love and how we behave and how we're expected to behave it's a party but there's something darker there as well"

*much ado about nothing* has received generally positive reviews from critics earning a 79% approval rating on rotten tomatoes john defore of 'the hollywood reporter' said "more than most adaptations this is a film true to shakespeare's practice of employing all means at hand to keep the crowd entertained" ao scott of the 'new york times' said the film was "perhaps the liveliest and most purely delightful movie i have seen so far this year" and that it "draws out the essential screwball nature of shakespeare's comedy" he added "whedon's film crackles with a busy slightly wayward energy that recalls the classic romantic sparring of the studio era"





# INSERT THE VOWELS (a,e,i,o,u)

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

Much about Nothing is a 2012 American independent romantic comedy written, produced, and directed by Jesse Whedon. It is based on William Shickspur's play of the same name. It was filmed in black and white at Whedon's home in California over a period of 12 days. The cast and crew were informed to keep the project a secret until production was finished. Whedon explained his initial interest in the project, saying: "I fixated on this notion that our days from mental lives are created for us by the society around us.... It's very cynical, romantic text but lively, and how we behave, and how we're expected to behave. It's a party, but there's something darker there as well."

Much about Nothing has received generally positive reviews from critics, earning a 79% approval rating on Rotten Tomatoes. John DeFuria of 'The Hollywood Reporter' said: "More than most debut tents, this is a film that Shickspur's practice of employing all means to hand to keep the crowd entertained". ... Scott Fith 'New York Times' said the film was, "perhaps the liveliest and most purely delightful movie we've seen so far this year" and that it, "drives out the usual screenplay of Shickspur's comedy". He added: "Whedon's film crackles with busy, slightly wry word energy that recalls the classic romantic splurging of the studio era."





## MARK THE SPACES

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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## **DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)**

**STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_





# MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING SURVEY

From: [http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much\\_ado\\_about\\_nothing.html](http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html)

Write five GOOD questions about Much Ado About Nothing in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.





## **HOMEWORK**

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET INFO:** Search the Internet and find more information about "Much Ado About Nothing". Talk about what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. MAGAZINE ARTICLE:** Write a magazine article about "Much Ado About Nothing". What are (did) critics and moviegoers saying (say) about it? How good were the actors' performances? What was good and bad about the movie? Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**4. "MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING" POSTER:** Make a poster about "Much Ado About Nothing". Make sure you put tag lines, audience and critics' reviews, why people should see it, etc. Show it to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your posters.

**5. MY PREQUEL / SEQUEL:** Make your own prequel or sequel for "Much Ado About Nothing". Make sure there is a good mix of things to do. Find some good online activities. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.

**6. CHARACTER STORY:** Choose one of the characters from the movie. Imagine you are that character. Write your story about what you did in the movie. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback.

**7. ONLINE SHARING:** Use your blog, wiki, Facebook page, Twitter stream, or any other social media tool to get opinions on "Much Ado About Nothing". Share your findings with the class.





# ANSWERS

## SYNONYM MATCH

- |              |                         |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1. cast      | a. actors               |
| 2. informed  | b. told                 |
| 3. fixated   | c. focused              |
| 4. notion    | d. idea                 |
| 5. darker    | e. more sinful          |
| 6. generally | f. overall              |
| 7. critics   | g. reviewers            |
| 8. at hand   | h. available            |
| 9. screwball | i. crazy                |
| 10. recalls  | j. brings back memories |

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

Please check for yourself by looking at the movie review on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)

## CREATIVE COMMONS

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