

Lessons On Movies.com

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html

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THE LISTENING / READING SCRIPT

From: 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://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Much_Adio_About_Nothing_%282012_film%29





TRAILER AND POSTER

From: 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 or 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

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

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

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% aoaprpvl 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

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

M_ch _ d_ _ b_ t N_th_ng _ s _ 2012 _ m_r_c_n
_nd_p_nd_nt r_m_nt_c c_m_dy wr_tt_n, pr_d_c_d, _nd
d_r_ct_d by J_ss Wh_d_n. _t _s b_s_d _n W_ll_m
Sh_k_sp__r's pl_y _f th_ s_m_ n_m_. _t w_s f_lm_d
_n bl_ck _nd wh_t_ _t Wh_d_n's h_m_ _n C_l_f_rn_ _v_r
_ p_r_d _f 12 d_ys. Th_ c_st _nd cr_w w_r
_nf_rm_d t_ k_p th_ pr_j_ct _ s_cr_t _nt_l
pr_d_ct__n w_s f_n_sh_d. Wh_d_n _xpl__n_d h_s
_n_t__l _nt_r_st _n th_ pr_j_ct, s_y_ng: "_f_x_t_d _n
th_s n_t__n th_t __r _d_s _f r_m_nt_c l_v_ _r
cr_t_d f_r _s by th_ s_c_ty _r_nd _s....t's _ v_ry
cyn_c_l, r_m_nt_c t_xt _b_t l_v_, _nd h_w w_
b_h_v_, _nd h_w w'_r_ _xp_ct_d t_ b_h_v_. _t's _
p_rty, b_t th_r_ 's s_m_th_ng d_rk_r th_r_ _s w_ll."

M_ch _ d_ _ b_ t N_th_ng h_s r_c_v_d g_n_r_lly
p_s_t_v_ r_v_w_s fr_m cr_t_cs, _rn_ng _ 79%
_ppr_v_l r_t_ng _n R_tt_n T_m_t_s. J_hn D_F_r_ _f
'Th_ H_llyw_d R_p_rt_r' s_d: "M_r_ th_n m_st
_d_pt_t_ns, th_s s _ f_lm tr_ t_ Sh_k_sp__r's
pr_ct_c _f mpl_y_ng ll m_ns _t h_nd t_ k_p th_
cr_wd _nt_rt_n_d". ... Sc_tt _f th_ 'N_w Y_rk T_m_s'
s_d th_ f_lm w_s, "p_rh_ps th_ l_v_l_st _nd m_st
p_r_ly d_l_ghtf_l m_v_ h_v_ s_n_s_ f_r th_s y_r"
_nd th_t t, "dr_ws _t th_ ss_nt_l scr_wb_ll n_t_r
_f Sh_k_sp__r's c_m_dy". H_dd_d: "Wh_d_n's f_lm
cr_ckl_s w_th _ b_sy, sl_ghtly w_yw_rd _n_rgy th_t
r_c_lls th_ cl_ss_c r_m_nt_c sp_rr_ng _f th_ st_d_ _r_."





MARK THE SPACES

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html

MuchAdoAboutNothing 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."

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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

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.





WRITING

From: http://www.LessonsOnMovies.com/much_ado_about_nothing.html

Write your own movie review. Show your partner your letter. Correct each other's work.





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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