

Michael Lucio
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English 250
One-page assignment
Chris Barkley

How do you instruct the intellect and the groundling at the same time?

Shakespeare uses his characters, not just to entertain the audience, but to challenge them to become better people. He does this by selecting a list of characters that would make it easy to choose who you like best. People recognize what a buffoon Sir Falstaff, yet they love him just the same. His incredible wit and imagination make him attractive and a joy to be around. For Example, Prince Henry allows us to get a glimpse of looking at the eyes of a young man who needs to grow yet still understands the world around him. When he eventually becomes King, he has the clear mindedness to focus his attention on being a man of responsibilities.

Malveloio is a punctual character that needs to be tricked into becoming something more than just too rigid and boring. Once he opens his inner life to passions he is able to smile and seek what he truly desires out of life. In his case, it's Olivia.

I really enjoy how Shakespeare uses his characters to teach us about life. He doesn't stand on a pulpit and preach about living the ideal life. To me, I feel that the plays can be compared to classic television shows like "Leave it to beaver and Fathers know Best." Each theme teaches you a moral behavior, a lesson on knowing what nobility is, or even knowing your true identity. These I find very helpful.