

Act 1 Questions

1. Name the double plots in the play.
2. What is the purpose of the sub plot?
3. If this were a traditional Greek drama, like *Oedipus* or *Medea*, what role would the Fool be playing?
4. What is Edmund's chief obsession in Scene 2, evidenced most clearly in his opening soliloquy?
5. Look at the beginning AND end of Scene 2. Is Shakespeare using blank verse, prose, or rhyming couplets? What may be the reason for this?
6. How does Shakespeare directly connect Goneril to Edmund in Scene 4?
7. When Lear asks in Scene 4, "Who am I, sir?" Oswald replies, "My Lady's father." Why does Lear fly into a rage at this response?
8. What threat in Scene 4 reduces Lear to tears?

