

Act II Questions

2.1

Though 2.1 is short, it is important in that it helps weave together the two plots.

- 1. What happens in the scene to further the subplot?**

- 2. What happens to further the main plot?**

- 3. Which characters help to weave the two plots together? How? Explain the scenarios.**

2.2 and 2.3

- 1. Give reasons for Kent's aggressive behavior towards everyone. (Analyze beyond the obvious circumstances of the scene. Consider his behavior primarily on a psychological level--fear and other motivating factors)**

- 2. How does Shakespeare thematically connect scene 2 (Kent) with scene 3 (Edgar)?**

- 3. During Elizabethan times, placing someone in the stocks was a punishment for the lowest criminal and thus would be an insult for a king's messenger (and thereby an insult to the king). Who in the scene determines Kent's punishment? Who tries to intervene? Why is that attempted intervention so cautious and deferential?**

