

Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare

The Merchant of Venice – Language – Rhythm and rhyme transcript

JESSICA

In such a night
Did Thisbe fearfully o'ertrip the dew,
And saw the lion's shadow ere himself,
And ran dismayed away.

LORENZO

In such a night
Stood Dido with a willow in her hand
Upon the wild sea banks, and waft her love
To come again to Carthage.

JESSICA

In such a night
Medea gathered the enchanted herbs
That did renew old Aeson.

LORENZO

In such a night
Did Jessica steal from the wealthy Jew
And with an unthrift love did run from Venice
As far as Belmont.

JESSICA

In such a night
Did young Lorenzo swear he loved her well,
Stealing her soul with many vows of faith,
And ne'er a true one.

LORENZO

In such a night
Did pretty Jessica (like a little shrew)
Slander her love, and he forgave it her.

JESSICA

I would outnight you, did no body come:
But hark, I hear the footing of a man...