

Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare A Midsummer Night's Dream – Themes – Appearance and reality transcript

VOICEOVER

Have you ever seen a fairy?

You've heard of sunglasses. Well these are night glasses.
With a Midsummer lens.

Try them on.

I don't know why he's so shocked. He wrote this crazy play.

You really can't trust your senses in a fairy wood on Midsummer's Eve.

There's a love potion making you fall in love with anybody you see!

Lysander and Demetrius both see Helena as the love of their lives!

Whereas Titania falls in love with an ass-headed Bottom!

And when Oberon reverses the spell, and Bottom becomes a man again,
they think that what was real, was just a dream.

Midsummer Night's Dream? If Shakespeare wrote the play today,
he could call it, 'Crazy Crazy Bonkers Time'.

You going to stick them on again?

Shakespeare tells us that fairyland, fantasy and dreams are great, but like Puck's potion,
can be strong medicine. Best take sparingly with a large dose of reality.

Once a night on Midsummer's Eve is quite enough.