

## Bitesize KS3 English Literature – Shakespeare

### The Merchant of Venice – Character – Shylock transcript

#### **SALARINO**

But tell us, do you hear whether Antonio have had any loss at sea or no?

#### **SHYLOCK**

There I have another bad match: a bankrupt, a prodigal, who dare scarce show his head on the Rialto, a beggar-- that was used to come so smug upon the mart. Let him look to his bond. He was wont to call me usurer; let him look to his bond. He was wont to lend money for a Christian courtesy; let him look to his bond.

#### **SALARINO**

Why, I am sure if he forfeit thou wilt not take his flesh. What's that good for?

#### **SHYLOCK**

To bait fish withal: if it will feed nothing else, it will feed my revenge. He hath disgraced me, and hindered me half a million, laughed at my losses, mocked at my gains, scorned my nation, thwarted my bargains, cooled my friends, heated mine enemies - and what's his reason? I am a Jew. Hath not a Jew eyes? Hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, passions? Fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same diseases, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer, as a Christian is? If you prick us, do we not bleed? If you tickle us, do we not laugh? If you poison us, do we not die? And if you wrong us, shall we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will resemble you in that. If a Jew wrong a Christian, what is his humility? Revenge. If a Christian wrong a Jew, what should his sufferance be by Christian example? Why, revenge! The villainy you teach me I will execute, and it shall go hard but I will better the instruction.