“He was not of an age, but for all time.”

Ben Johnson (Shakespeare’s contemporary)

“If you’re not having fun with a Shakespeare text, something’s wrong.”

Choose one of the following questions to essay in a 1-2 page journal. Use details from the play to develop your response.

- Explore how the two settings – Athens and the nearby forest – reflect different social and physical environments as well as different types of behavior among the characters. Brainstorm a list with two columns (“City” and “Forest”) and develop as many rich and interesting comparisons as you can.

- Explore the relationship between the play-within-the-play (Pyramus and Thisbe) and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. What would Shakespeare’s audience have thought about *Pyramus and Thisbe*?

- In *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, Shakespeare has presented us with a blending and rearranging of our ideas about *dreaming/waking, illusion and fantasy/reality, order and reason/imagination*. Explore this relationship. Read from the play as you discuss.