**![C:\Users\christine.lagrandeur\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary Internet Files\Content.IE5\NTLO32L0\dglxasset[1].aspx]()ACT I**

1. According to Salerio and Salanio, what it the cause for Antonio’s melancholy? What reason does Antonio give?

2. Why does Bassanio want Antonio to loan him more money? Why does Antonio agree?

3. Discuss Bassanio’s attitude toward money. Does Shakespeare intend for Bassanio to be viewed as a spendthrift or as an opportunist or both?

4. Why is Portia angry with her deceased father?

5. How do Shylock’s first words in this scene characterize him?

6. What is the purpose of Shylock’s aside as Antonio approaches? Prove.

7. Shylock agrees to lend Antonio and Bassanio 3,000 ducats (15,000$ Canadian) under one condition? What is it? Why is Antonio not worried?

8. Act 1 introduces two plots? What are they? What is the purpose of these two plots?

