A collection of critical essays on the Shakespeare play, The merchant of Venice, arranged in chronological order of publication.
Four hundred years after its first performance, The Merchant of Venice continues to draw audiences, spark debate, and elicit controversy. This collection of new essays examines the performance and study of Shakespeare's play from a broad range of contemporary critical approaches. The contributors, drawn from four continents, build upon recent scholarship in new historicism, feminism, performance theory, and postcolonial studies to present new perspectives on the play, and offer fresh insights into its critical legacy on stage and as a literary text. A substantial introductory essay provides important historical context and surveys major critical approaches to the play over the centuries. This volume is an essential companion to The Merchant of Venice and a significant contribution to Shakespearean criticism.

In Blood Relations, Janet Adelman confronts her resistance to The Merchant of Venice as both a critic and a Jew. With her distinctive psychological acumen, she argues that Shakespeare’s play frames the uneasy relationship between Christian and Jew specifically in familial terms in order to recapitulate the vexed familial relationship between Christianity and Judaism. Adelman locates the promise—or threat—of Jewish conversion as a particular site of tension in the play. Drawing on a variety of cultural materials, she demonstrates that, despite the triumph of its Christians, The Merchant of Venice reflects Christian anxiety and guilt about its simultaneous dependence on and disavowal of Judaism. In this startling psycho-theological analysis, both the
insistence that Shylock’s daughter Jessica remain racially bound to her father after her conversion and the depiction of Shylock as a bloody-minded monster are understood as antidotes to Christian uneasiness about a Judaism it can neither own nor disown. In taking seriously the religious discourse of The Merchant of Venice, Adelman offers in Blood Relations an indispensable book on the play and on the fascinating question of Jews and Judaism in Renaissance England and beyond.

"To be or not to be" may be one of Shakespeare's most famous Soliloquy, but right behind it is Shylock's famous "Hath not a Jew eyes’" speech. It's a moving speech that is often over looked because, let's face it, it's old! Now you can at last understand the profound wisdom (and humor) of this classic Shakespeare comedy. If you don't understand Shakespeare, then you are not alone. If you have struggled in the past reading Shakespeare, then BookCaps can help you out. This book is a modern translation of The Merchant of Venice The original text is also presented in the book, along with a comparable version of the modern text. We all need refreshers every now and then. Whether you are a student trying to cram for that big final, or someone just trying to understand a book more, BookCaps can help. We are a small, but growing company, and are adding titles every month.

Here are the books that help teach Shakespeare plays without the teacher constantly needing to explain and define Elizabethan terms, slang, and other ways of expression that are different from our own. Each play is presented with Shakespeare's original lines on each left-hand page, and a modern, easy-to-understand "translation" on the facing right-hand page. All dramas are complete, with every original Shakespearian line, and a full-length modern rendition of the text. These invaluable teaching-study guides also include:
Access Free The Merchant Of Venice Study
William Shakespeare

Helpful background information that puts each play in its historical perspective. Discussion questions that teachers can use to spark student class participation, and which students can use as springboards for their own themes and term papers. Fact quizzes, sample examinations, and other features that improve student comprehension of what each play is about.

This series features classic Shakespeare retold with graphic color illustrations. Educators using the Dale-Chall vocabulary system adapted each title. Each 64-page, book retains key phrases and quotations from the original play. Research shows that the more students read, the better their vocabulary, their ability to read, and their knowledge of the world. Containing 11 reproducible exercise to maximize vocabulary development and comprehension skills, these guides include pre-and post-reading activities, story synopses, key vocabulary, and answer key. The guides are digital, you simply print the activities you need for each lesson.

Suitable for all secondary level study up to GCSE/Standard Grade, this edition contains two sets of differentiated activities at the end of each act. The activities are designed to develop student understanding of the play and its themes. 35 reproducible exercises in each guide reinforce basic reading and comprehension skills as they teach higher order critical thinking skills and literary appreciation. Teaching suggestions, background notes, act-by-act summaries, and answer keys included.

A study guide to accompany classroom reading of
The Merchant of Venice in the classroom featuring suggested discussion questions, vocabulary work, work sheets, related Bible passages and further readings.
This student friendly book draws together text, context, criticism and performance history to provide an integrated view of one of the most dazzling works of the early modern theatre.
The nation's favourite literature study guides
The Cambridge Student Guide to The Merchant of Venice provides explanatory notes and guidance to help form the basis for the understanding of the play. It is part of a new series aimed at students from 16 years upwards in schools and colleges throughout the English-speaking world. Background information provides support and prompts inquiry for advanced level study by drawing out issues and themes related to the text. The content of each book in the series follows the pattern of an introduction; detailed running commentary on the text; insight into historical, social and cultural contexts; analysis of the language; an overview of critical approaches and different interpretations; essay-writing tips and lists of recommended resources.
"Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment."
James 2:12, 13 The Merchant of Venice is a story of
love, friendship, prejudice, and justice. In the beginning of the story we meet the impulsive and carefree nobleman Bassanio. He is in love with Portia, the rich heiress from Belmont. Portia is being courted by many great and wealthy men from around the world. Without sufficient funds to court Portia, Bassanio turns to his good friend Antonio, a wealthy merchant, to supply him with enough money to support his journey. But because Antonio has invested all his money in ships that are at sea, to help his friend Antonio is forced to borrow 3,000 ducats from the greedy Jewish moneylender Shylock. Shylock, bitter and angry from being mistreated by Antonio in the past, forces him to sign a bond. Shylock sees this as his only possibility for revenge for racist insults and financial hardships that he has suffered from Antonio. Shylock agrees to lend the 3,000 ducats without interest provided that Antonio forfeit a pound of flesh from his body if the bond is not repaid. Antonio lightheartedly signs the bond, ignoring the protests of Bassanio. Meanwhile Bassanio and his outspoken friend Gratiano travel to Belmont to court Portia. In Belmont, Bassanio is given a test - a test of character given to each of Portia's suitors. The suitor is made to choose one of three caskets - gold, silver, or lead - based on their cryptic inscriptions. The lover who selects the correct casket, according to her father's will, earns the right to marry Portia. Those who do not choose correctly
must agree to never court Portia again. At the same time, Lorenzo, an artist-friend of Bassanio's, and Jessica, the daughter of Shylock, elope, taking with them some of Shylock's ducats and jewels. Shylock is furious at the double loss of his daughter and his ducats. But then word comes that Antonio's ships have been lost at sea, and he is unable to repay his debt to Shylock. Shylock cries for justice, a pound of flesh from Antonio, as is his right. Bassanio and Gratiano hurry back to Venice to help Antonio. Portia and her friend Nerissa also come to Venice, in disguise, to aid Antonio. In the end, justice is served in a most unexpected way. Interactive CD-rom. Includes the unabridged text of Shakespeare's classic play plus a complete study guide that features scene-by-scene summaries, explanations and discussions of the plot, question-and-answer sections, author biography, historical background, and more. Timeless Shakespeare-designed for the struggling reader and adapted to retain the integrity of the original play. These classic plays retold will grab a student's attention from the first page. Presented in traditional play script format, each title features simplified language, easy-to-read type, and strict adherence to the tone and integrity of the original. Thirty-five reproducible activities per guide reinforce basic reading and comprehension skills while teaching high-order critical thinking. Also included
The Merchant of Venice is one of the most outstanding romantic comedies of William Shakespeare. The play revolves around the legendary characters of Antonio, a rich Italian merchant, Shylock, a rich Jewish man, and Portia, a rich heiress. When Antonio asks to borrow money from Shylock to help his friend Bassanio, Shylock agrees on the condition that if he is unable to repay it by the date specified, he will have to repay it with a pound of his flesh. As the play unfolds, Antonio is trapped by Shylock's condition, but the beautiful and intelligent Portia comes to his rescue.

Looks at the influence of Shakespeare's Shylock, describes the character's evolution on the stage, and presents writing about him by Proust, James, T.S. Eliot, and others

This series has been created to assist HSC students of English in their understanding of set texts. Top Notes are easy to read, providing analysis of issues and discussion of important ideas contained in the texts. Particular care has been taken to ensure that students are able to examine each text in the context of the module it has been allocated to. Each text includes: Notes on the specific module; Plot summary; Character analysis; Setting; Thematic concerns; Language studies; Essay questions and a modelled response; Other textual material; Study practice questions;
Useful quotes.

A comprehensive study guide offering in-depth explanation, essay, and test prep for William Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice, which raises questions about antisemitism and the cultural stereotypes of the Jewish people during the sixteenth-century. As a dramatic comedy, The Merchant of Venice displays themes like friendship and unrequited love, as well as religious persecution. Moreover, the text conveys the perspective of Renaissance Christians, particularly the obligation they felt to convert those who did not believe in Jesus as Christ. This Bright Notes Study Guide explores the context and history of Shakespeare’s classic work, helping students to thoroughly explore the reasons it has stood the literary test of time. Each Bright Notes Study Guide contains: - Introductions to the Author and the Work - Character Summaries - Plot Guides - Section and Chapter Overviews - Test Essay and Study Q&As The Bright Notes Study Guide series offers an in-depth tour of more than 275 classic works of literature, exploring characters, critical commentary, historical background, plots, and themes. This set of study guides encourages readers to dig deeper in their understanding by including essay questions and answers as well as topics for further research. Over two million Shakespeare Shorts sold! Discover the world of Shakespeare with this collection of brilliant stories - perfect for readers of all ages. In Venice, the merchant Antonio borrows money so his friend can woo a beautiful lady. He agrees that if he doesn't repay Shylock the moneylender, Shylock can take a pound of his flesh. When Antonio's ships sink and he loses his fortune, Shylock insists on the gruesome payment... A dramatic retelling of this classic Shakespeare story.

Shakespeare and Venice is the first book length study to
describe and chronicle the mythology of Venice that was formulated in the Middle Ages and has persisted in fiction and film to the present day. Graham Holderness focuses specifically on how that mythology was employed by Shakespeare to explore themes of conversion, change, and metamorphosis. Identifying and outlining the materials having to do with Venice which might have been available to Shakespeare, Holderness provides a full historical account of past and present Venetian myths and of the city's relationship with both Judaism and Islam. Holderness also provides detailed readings of both The Merchant of Venice and of Othello against these mythical and historical dimensions, and concludes with discussion of Venice's relevance to both the modern world and to the past.

The Merchant of Venice has been performed more often than any other comedy by Shakespeare. Molly Mahood pays special attention to the expectations of the play's first audience, and to our modern experience of seeing and hearing the play. In a substantial new addition to the Introduction, Charles Edelman focuses on the play's sexual politics and recent scholarship devoted to the position of Jews in Shakespeare's time. He surveys the international scope and diversity of theatrical interpretations of The Merchant in the 1980s and 1990s and their different ways of tackling the troubling figure of Shylock.

The last decade has witnessed a spate of high-profile presentations of The Merchant of Venice: the 2004 Michael Radford film, 2010’s New York City “Shakespeare in the Park” production, as well as the play’s Tony Award-nominated 2010-11 Broadway run. Likewise, new scholarly works such as Kenneth Gross’s Shylock is Shakespeare (2006) and Janet Adelman’s Blood Relations (2008) have offered poignant insights
into this play. Why has this drama garnered so much attention of late? What else can we learn from this contentious comedy? How else can we read the drama’s characters? Where do studies of The Merchant of Venice go from here? This collection offers readers sundry answers to these questions by showcasing a sampling of ways this culturally arresting play can be read and interpreted. The strength of this monograph lies in the disparate approaches its contributors offer – from a feminist view of Portia and Nerissa’s friendship to psychoanalytic readings of allegories between the play and Shakespeare’s Pericles to a reading of a Manga comic book version of The Merchant of Venice. Each essay is supported by a strong basis in traditional close reading practices. Our collection of scholars then buttresses such work with the theoretical or pedagogical frameworks that reflect their area of expertise. This collection offers readers different critical lenses through which to approach the primary text. Although Shakespeare scholars and graduate students will no doubt appreciate and employ the work of this collection, the primary audience of this anthology is undergraduate students and the professors who work with them. Many budding scholars have had the experience of checking out a monograph from the library and then finding it was a waste of time because the author spends three hundred pages discussing a perspective of which they have no interest. With this collection, students will not only see how multi-faceted interpretations of the play can be but they also are more likely to find essays that appeal to their own research interests.
Offers source documents and analysis to provide a historical context for understanding the major themes of Shakespeare's most controversial play. Like previous editions in the New Kittredge Shakespeare series, this edition of The Two Noble Kinsmen takes George Lyman Kittredge's text as its base, though in this case one that has been extensively edited by Jim Casey in the light of more recent editions. As Kittredge never published a free-standing edition of the play, all annotations and performance notes are Casey's and have been prepared specifically for this edition. In addition to other standard features of New Kittredge Shakespeare editions—Topics for Discussion and Further Study, a timeline, and a discussion of reading the play as performance—it offers a splendid new Introduction by Casey focusing on the themes and recent production history of this recently revived play of Shakespeare and Fletcher's.

This collection of essays approaches the works of Shakespeare from the topical perspective of the History of Emotions. Contributions come from established and emergent scholars from a range of disciplines, including performance history, musicology and literary history.

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