

# *A Midsummer Night's Dream Vocabulary*

## General Terms for Shakespeare

**Soliloquy (n)** talking as if alone in order to express a character's thoughts. It is a very long speech that other characters cannot hear

**Thou (n)** you

**Thither (adv)** there, over there

**Aside (n)** a part of an actor's lines supposedly not heard by others on the stage and intended only for the audience.

**Aye (adv)** yes

**Nay (adv)** no

## Words Found in the Play (and great for the SAT too)

**Amorous (adj)** strongly attracted, or disposed to love

**Audacious (adj)** bold, insolent, spirited or original

**Dejected (adj)** depressed, disheartened

**Disdain (n)** to look upon or treat with contempt; despise; scorn

**Discourage (v)** verbal expression in speech or writing

**Discretion (n)** ability or power to decide responsibly

**Dote (v)** to express excessive love or fondness habitually

**Enamored (v)** inspired with love

**Enmity (n)** deep-seated often mutual hatred

**Extempore (adv)** spoken or carried out with little preparation

**Fret (v)** to worry

**Haunt (n)** a frequently visited place  
(v) to visit frequently or appear to frequently as a spirit or ghost

**Knavery (adj)** unprincipled; crafty

**Lamentable (adj)** worth of grief; mourning; expressing sorrow

**Loathe (v)** to hate; to despise

**Mirth (n)** Gladness and happiness

**Nuptial (adj)** pertaining to marriage or the marriage ceremony

**Peril (n)** exposure to injury, loss, or destruction; grave risk; jeopardy; danger

**Perjure (v)** to testify falsely under oath

**Persuasion (n)** a strongly held opinion

**Prevail (v)** to succeed; to be or prove superior in strength, power, or influence

**Purge (v)** to remove

**Rebuke (v)** to criticize

**Recount (v)** to narrate facts or details of

**Revoke (v)** to take back or withdraw; annul, cancel, or reverse; rescind or repeal

**Shrewd (adj)** astute or sharp in practical matters; wise

**Shroud (n)** a cloth used to wrap a body for burial

**Spurn (v)** to kick at or tread on disdainfully

**Valor (n)** bravery; courage

**Vex (v)** to irritate; annoy; provoke

**Visage (n)** a face; appearance