**Ms. McLeod**

**ELA B10**

**Merchant of Venice by William Shakespeare**

**Merchant of Venice**

**Act IV Questions-The Great Trial Scene**

***Act IV***

1. What reason does the Duke initially give to Shylock for giving up his ludicrous bond?
2. Why does Shylock want a “weight of carrion flesh” rather than 3000 ducats?
3. Antonio makes two striking comparisons in regards to Shylock’s hardness of heart. To what two things does Antonio compare Shylock’s hardness of heart?
4. How does Shylock justify his determination in having his bond regarding a practice of the Venetian gentleman?
5. In scene 2, lines 114-118 Antonio expresses the idea that he is ready for death. In doing so, what does he reveal about his character?
6. What figure of speech does Shakespeare use in this line, “Not on thy sole: but on thy soul, harsh Jew,” p.185.
7. What line of argument does Portia, disguised as the young lawyer, use against Shylock in attempting to convince him to arrest his bond?
8. Portia sets Shylock up for a tremendous fall. Quote the lines which represent the climax of the play.
9. Consider the Duke’s lack of mercy towards Shylock with Shylock’s lack of mercy towards Antonio. Do you think Shylock got what he deserved?
10. What settlement does Antonio make with regard to the privilege the law grants him in possessing one half of Shylock’s estate?
11. Quote the lines that reveal Shylock’s utter and completely devastating defeat.
12. Define dramatic irony. Give one example of dramatic irony in the play.

***Act V***

1. Describe the atmosphere at the beginning of the scene.
2. How is the final scene different from Act 4 scene 1? (consider atmosphere, setting, conclusion)