

Classical Comics announces the outstanding success of its
downloadable, free of charge, graphic adaptations
of the set texts for 2008 Key Stage 3 English GCSEs for
Much Ado About Nothing, Richard III* and *The Tempest
in its revolutionary three-tier dialogue format of Quick, Plain and Original Text
plus teachers' resources for each set section

Classical Comics is on stand PZ-C38 at The Education Show, NEC Birmingham
on Thursday 28, Friday 29 and Saturday 1 March 2008

Classical Comics' free SATs downloads, launched at SSAT National Conference Exhibition last November, have proved an outstanding success. With approximately 2,000 hits per day, the 100,000 mark will be surpassed by the end of February. Numerous teachers, some as far afield as Canada, USA, Australia and South Africa, have contacted Classical Comics in grateful thanks:

I just wanted to say a massive thank you for the free SATs downloads. I have two very challenging Year 9 classes who were not at all keen to study Shakespeare. I, on the other hand, LOVE his work and Much Ado About Nothing is one of my personal favourites. Your resources will be so helpful, useful and inspiring!

I'd just like to say how much I appreciate your generosity in making these excellent resources free to download. They will be an amazing teaching tool for my department, and will really help students of all abilities to appreciate Shakespeare

Thank you so much. I've downloaded the free set scene resources and I'm using them at GCSE level to really focus on the language and structure. They are a superb visual resource, allowing time to examine the pictures in relation to the text. Shakespeare is so much a visual experience, or should be. DVDs are OK, but have you tried reading a foreign language from a book and trying to keep one eye on the screen at the same time? That's what most of our students would be trying to do. These comics give them time, a priceless commodity when you're learning

Every year secondary schools must choose one of three Shakespeare plays to study for the Key Stage 3 English test; the three plays for study in 2008 are: *Much Ado About Nothing, Richard III* and *The Tempest*. Two sections are specified for each play, and pupils are required to study both of the sections. The 2008 set sections of these three plays are currently downloadable, free of charge from Classical Comics' website, and linked from the NATE and TES websites. The downloads feature the set sections in graphic form with Classical Comics' pioneering choice of text: Original – the full, unabridged script, Plain – a modern English version of the original script, and Quick – with reduced, simplified dialogue for easier and faster reading. Classical Comics also provides story summaries and complementary teachers' resources/Study Guides, with chapters on Language, Performance, Character and Motivation, and Ideas, Themes and Issues.

The free download graphic adaptations of the set texts for Key Stage 3 English GCSEs will be updated every year to match the UK curriculum and SATS.

With its new series of graphic novel adaptations - and these invaluable classroom teaching resources - Classical Comics has succeeded in bringing Shakespeare to life, with striking artwork depicting the drama, emotion and action scenes in an exciting, captivating way. Classical Comics started from the premise of making classical literature exciting and engaging for both children and adults alike. Appreciation for the classics starts in schools, so it was a natural progression to provide high-quality materials to cover the essential sections of GCSE Shakespeare texts using its unique three-point text system. In keeping with its passion for, and mission to aid, English language and literature education, Classical Comics offers the downloads free of charge.

Macbeth and *Henry V* are Classical Comics' first books in its range of graphic novel adaptations. Other great literary novels receiving the Classical Comics treatment include: Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* (Summer 2008), Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (Summer 2008), and Charles Dickens' *Great Expectations* (Autumn 2008). The books retail at £9.99 each, and are available from Amazon, and all good bookshops nationwide.

The downloads are available from Classical Comics' website and linked from NATE and TES websites

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