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| **Aspect** | **Examples** | **Quotation** |  |
| **Beatrice and Benedick are both anti-marriage at the start** | They both like the opposite sex, but don’t want to marry anyone | Ben:**I am loved of all ladies, only [Beatrice] excepted…I will live a bachelor** (I,i)Bea: [In heaven St Peter will] **show me where the bachelors sit, and there we live, as merry as the day is long…Send me no husband** (II,i) | **Marriage https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRDBvKGc1fE** |
| Ben is convinced that a married man will inevitably be cuckolded, or cheated upon | Ben:[If I ever marry] **pluck off the bull’s horns, and set them in my forehead** (I,i)Bea: [After marriage comes] **Repentance… till he sink into his grave** (II,i) |
| They both think marriage sounds really dull | **Thrust thy neck into a yoke, wear the print of it and sigh away Sundays** (I,i) |
| He is particularly against the idea of marrying Beatrice | **I would not marry her, though she were endowed with all that Adam had left him before he transgressed** (II,i) |
| **After the gulling they do change their minds. Bea is perhaps a little more enthusiastic than Ben!** | Ben says it is his duty, even though it might ruin | **The world must be peopled** (II,iii)To Friar: **Bind me, or undo me, one of them** (V,iv) |
| Bea’s thoughts quickly turn to marriage in her gulling scene | **I will requite thee…Taming my wild heart to thy loving hand…To bind our loves up in a holy band** (III,i) |
| They pretend to be marrying each other out of pity rather than love | Ben: **Come, I will have thee, but by this light I take thee for pity** (V,iv)Bea: **I would not deny you…partly to save your life, for I was told, you were in a consumption** (V,iv) |
| **In the end Ben is really happy about being married** | Pedro asks him what it’s like to be married | **A college of witcrackers cannot flout me out of my humour** (V,iv) |
| He encourages Pedro to try it, too | **Prince, thou art sad, get thee a wife, get thee a wife, that we may lighten our own hearts** (V,iv) |
| He even suggests being cuckolded might not be too bad! | **There is no staff more reverend than one tipped with horn** (V, iv) |