

## AP Language and Composition

Christina Schroeder:

Take Home Synthesis Prompt:

Consider the material published by the Anti-Defamation League regarding Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice*. **Consider the provided sources and create your own argument as to whether *The Merchant of Venice* should be read as a comedy or tragedy.** Make sure that your argument is central; use the sources to illustrate and support your reasoning. Avoid merely summarizing the sources. Indicate clearly which sources you are drawing from, whether through direct quotation, paraphrase, summary. You may cite the sources as Source A, Source B, Source C, etc.

Source A: Satire Handout

Source B: *The Merchant of Venice*

Source C: Shakespeare Uncovered (class film)

Source D: Director's Cut (class film)

Source E: The ADL's *Anti-Semitism and The Merchant of Venice*

Source F: Research one of your own

Link to the ADL material:

[https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/education-outreach/Merchant\\_Venice\\_Discussion\\_Guide.pdf](https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/documents/assets/pdf/education-outreach/Merchant_Venice_Discussion_Guide.pdf)

Students should read *The Narrative of a Life of a Slave* by Fredrick Douglass after spring break and be ready to discuss when we return on April 6th.