**Othello – A play about Passion**

Othello begins with conflict and drama. It is a play about passion…take a moment to look back at the handout on passions given to you at the beginning of this unit. Passion isn’t always about love. It can be defined as “a strong and barely controllable emotion”. In the space provided below, consider each of the characters and their passions. We will continue to trace these as the story progresses. (\*note: I filled one in for Iago to help)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Character | Passions | Explanation | Results |
| Othello |  |  |  |
| Desdemona |  |  |  |
| Iago | He aspires to become a Lieutenant – to find respect(including Othello’s) in the society he lives in  Iago is an extremely Jealous person | From the beginning his passionate hatred for Othello is apparent “I hate the Moor” and this comes from being turned down for a position as lieutenant. He is desperately seeking validation from Othello and the other senators for the work that he has done.  Iago admits to believing that Othello slept with his wife Emilia. He doesn’t know this but says that he will “act as if for surety”. | This passion leads Iago to want to gain revenge on Othello by pretending to serve him while he really intends to serve himself.  Again, this passion leads Iago to plot revenge against Othello. No meaningful relationships can enter his life because he is constantly pretending. |
| Roderigo |  |  |  |
| Cassio |  |  |  |
| Brabantio |  |  |  |