

# Othello

-William Shakespeare

# To Tell the Truth

- On a scale of one to ten (one being “Never tell the truth” and ten being “Always tell the truth”) where would you rank yourself? Why do you feel it is important to tell the truth? When do you lie? Why do you lie?
- Under which circumstances would you be able to get more of what you want in life (money, power, esteem, etc.)- by always being honest or always lying?

What?!!?!?!?!?

Decoding Shakespeare, Step by Step.

# Step 1: Don't Stop Believin'

- **Recognize** that Shakespeare wrote in a style of language that you are (probably not) familiar with.
- **Believe** that you can learn to understand it.
- I'll prove it to you...

# Exercise 1:

- In your group, come up with a set of (school appropriate) lyrics from a song that you totally understand, but you think Mrs. Evans probably won't get.
- (Hint: she's a big dork, so anything cool will probably fool her)
- Write them on your group's white board.

# Step 2: Punctuation

- Shakespeare wrote  
With capitals  
At the start of every line,  
But every line,  
Not a sentence makes.

# Exercise 2:

- Use the first passage on your worksheet.
- Find all the periods and put a slash next to them. This helps you keep track of where sentences begin and end.
- Know that Shakespeare used commas to tell his actors to pause.
- In pairs, take turns speaking your marked sentences aloud.

# Step 3: You Know

- Now that you know how to read/speak in the rhythm of Shakespeare's language, it is time to decide what the sentences mean.
- To do that, we will focus on what we do know, and use it to figure out what we don't know.



# Exercise 3:

- Translate the sentences with your partner.
- Don't translate word for word. Focus on phrases rather than words.
- Start with the phrases you understand. Use clues from those parts to figure out what you don't understand.
- Write your translation directly next to the passage.
- Be prepared to share out- we will be going over these together!

# Step 4: Get in Character.

- Check your work.
- Consider: would your character really say this?
- If yes, great! Check plus for you.
- If not, it's ok. Pinpoint the part that wouldn't make sense for that character and try tweaking it.

# Exercise 4

- Pretend you are Iago and read your translation aloud to your partner.
- Evaluate: Would he say that?
- Hint: If you just said that you truly love Othello and are happy to genuinely serve him.... It's time to re-work your translation.

# Definition

What is a “Moor?”

# Othello- “The Moor”

- Somewhat broad and varying definition (has changed as cultures have changed over time).
- Our definition is accurate for the 16<sup>th</sup> century (when Othello took place).
  - Moor: a Muslim person from South Africa in the 16<sup>th</sup> Century.
- Is Moor a derogatory word?
  - In short, yes.
  - Rough contemporary equivalent- “colored.”

# Witchcraft or True Love?

- Barbantio is accusing Othello of witchcraft- he thinks it's the only possible way Desdemona would have decided to marry him!
- Othello responds to Barbantio's accusation with an explanation of how his and Desdemona's relationship began.
- In this speech, we also learn about Othello's personal history.

# Who is Othello?

- In some of their first conversations, Othello tells Desdemona about his personal history.
- Watch the film.
- Use the four steps and people in your group to translate the passage.
- Describe Othello's life experiences. What kind of life has he had so far? (CLEAR)



# Desdemona & Othello



- Watch the scene where Othello talks about his personal history and the beginning of his and Desdemona's relationship.
- Translate the passage.
- Why do Desdemona and Othello fall in love?



# Iago's Asides

- Iago's "asides" to the audience are filmed a little differently than the rest of the movie. How are they filmed, and how does this demonstrate his character?

# Othello 3.4.159

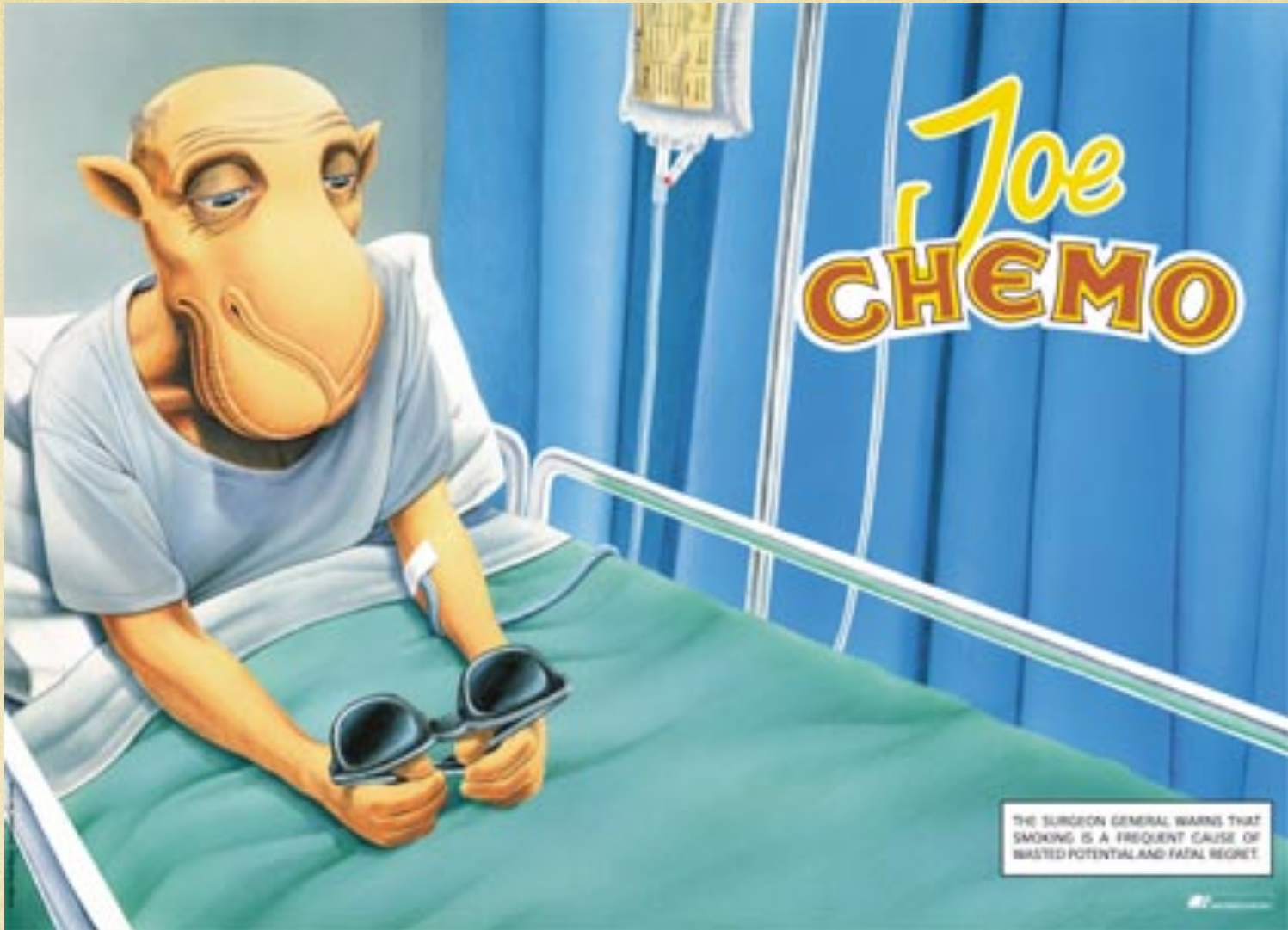
- Copy this into your journal, then translate it.
- How does this passage fit in with one of the themes of the play?

*Emilia to Desdemona*

But jealous souls will not be answer'd so;  
They are not ever jealous for the cause,  
But jealous for they're jealous. It is a monster  
Begot upon itself, born on itself.

# Rhetoric

- Rhetoric (noun) the art of effective persuasive thinking or writing.
- Rhetorical Appeals (an Appeal is a method)
  - Pathos: Emotional Appeal. Uses strong feelings, rather than facts or evidence, to persuade.



○ What are you supposed to feel?

○ How did they do it? (Two specific ways)



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# Mad Men O'Clock

- Analyze your ad.
- Mount it on a piece of construction paper.
- Create a claim that describes the emotion the ad is trying to achieve. Write it on your poster.
- Identify two specific elements the ad uses to inspire this emotion (images, wording, colors, etc.) Write a sentence explaining each element on your poster. Draw arrows to point to the elements.
- Decide how/who is going to present your work.
- These posters are going up on the wall- do your best!

# Iago's Pathos

- Translate Iago's Speech at 3.3.374-80.
- Write a paragraph response: How is Iago trying to make Othello feel? How is this an example of pathos?

# Rhetoric

## Ethos

The ethical appeal



# Ethos

- Ethos (Ethical Appeal)
  - Persuasion based on the credibility of the author/speaker.
  - How can someone prove they are a credible source for their argument?

# Credible Source

- You want tips on how to be a successful, professional musician. Who would choose to speak to? Why?
  - Justin Timberlake
  - Paul McCartney
  - Taylor Swift
  - Yo Yo Ma

# Credible Source

- You're making popcorn, and the microwave catches on fire. Who do you call for help? Why?
  - The Ghostbusters
  - The Fire Department
  - Mom or Dad



He's one of the busiest men in town. While his door may say *Office Hours 2 to 4*, he's actually on call 24 hours a day.

The doctor is a scientist, a diplomat, and a friendly sympathetic human being all in one, no matter how long and hard his schedule.

*According to a recent Nationwide survey:*

# MORE DOCTORS SMOKE CAMELS THAN ANY OTHER CIGARETTE

**D**OCTORS in every branch of medicine—113,997 in all—were queried in this nationwide study of cigarette preference. Three leading research organizations made the survey. The gist of the query was—What cigarette do you smoke, Doctor?

*The brand named most was Camel!*

The rich, full flavor and cool mildness of Camel's superb blend of costlier tobaccos seem to have the same appeal to the smoking tastes of doctors as to millions of other smokers. If you are a Camel smoker, this preference among doctors will hardly surprise you. If you're not—well, try Camels now.



Your "T-Zone" Will Tell You...

**T for Taste . . .  
T for Throat . . .**

that's your proving ground for any cigarette. See if Camels don't suit your "T-Zone" to a "T."

**CAMELS** *Costlier Tobaccos*

- Who is selling cigarettes in this ad?
- Why is he an effective spokesperson to drive cigarette sales?



“ I never thought  
I would be a **Statistic.**”

**More than 750,000**  
teenage girls will become  
pregnant this year. ”

[thecandiesfoundation.org](http://thecandiesfoundation.org)

PROVIDING INFORMATION ABOUT THE DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES OF TEEN PREGNANCY.

 **PAUSE**  
BEFORE YOU PLAY

BRISTOL PALIN  
AND SON, TRIFF



○ How is this ad using ethos?

# Rhetoric

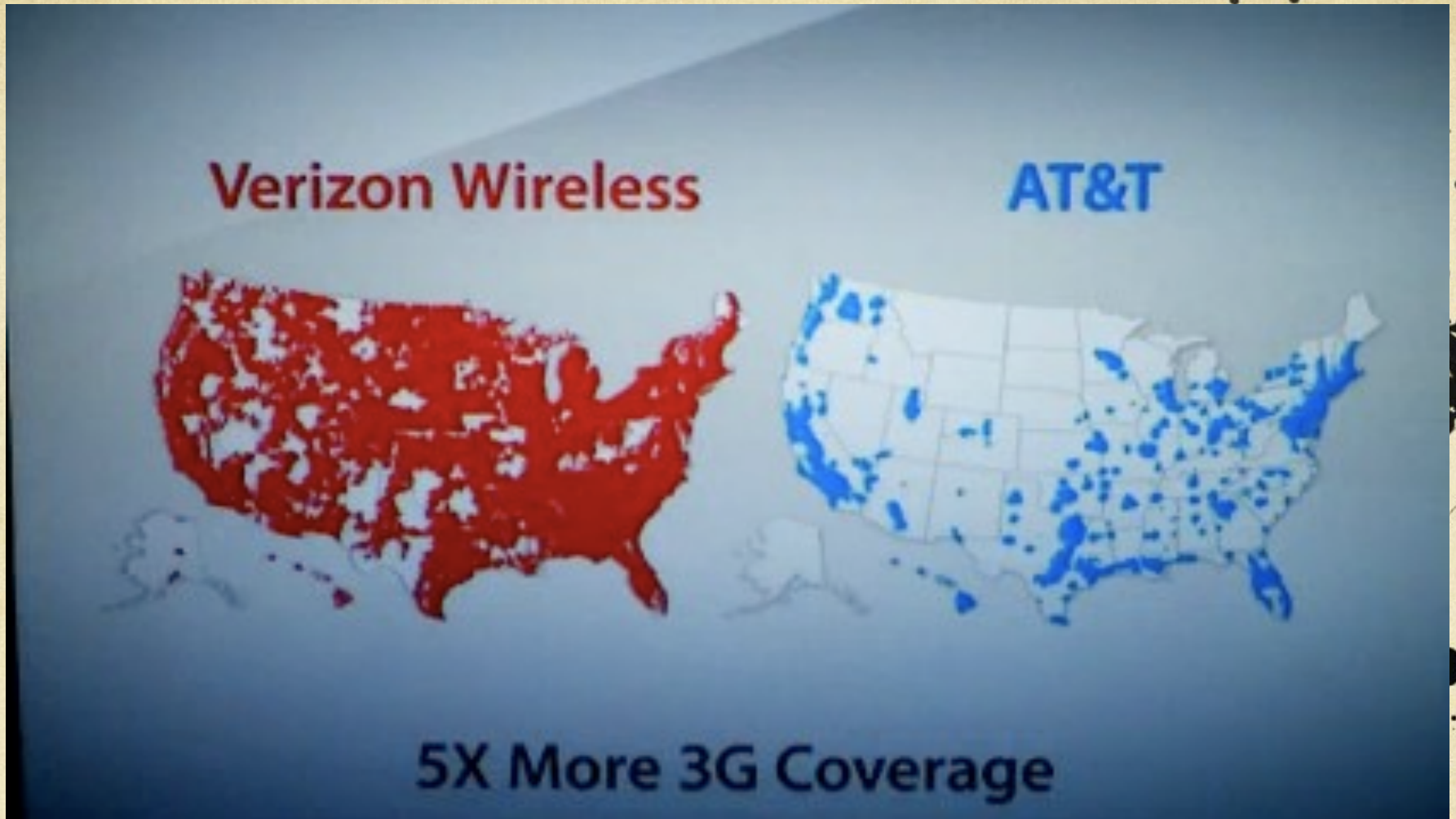
## Logos

### The Logical Appeal

# Logos

- Logos (Logical Appeal)
  - Persuasion based on logic and reasoning.





- How does this ad present a logical argument?

# I like MD because it's REAL ECONOMY!

I buy MD for quality and economy! It's soft, white, and strong. And MD's full size sheet gives maximum service!



## SILKY SOFT

MD's so soft it's safe even for your baby's delicate skin! Extra absorbent, too!



## SUPER STRONG

It tears on the perforations without unrolling too fast. No wasteful, jagged edges!



## WHITER WHITE

White for purity! MD is free from flaws and fibers that might be irritating.

- What examples of logical reasoning do you see in this ad?
- Do you see any of the other Appeals in this ad?

- major cause of stroke
- very addictive
- raises blood pressure
- suppresses immune function
- dulls senses of smell and taste
- reduces stamina
- wrinkles your skin
- leads to depression and fatigue
- may cause fatal heart attacks
- may cause emphysema
- may cause gum disease
- may cause cancer

# Smoking Kills

...so why bother starting?

- How does this ad create a logical argument?
- Do you see any of the other Appeals in this ad?

Good persuasive arguments use more than one type of appeal.

# Homework

- Bring in an add that uses more than one appeal.
- Be prepared to talk/write about it.