**Benedick**

- ‘I will live a bachelor’
- He is called ‘the prince’s jester, a very dull fool’
- He says, ‘But I hope you have no intent to turn husband, have you?’

**Characteristics:**
- honourable
- irritable
- obstinate
- determined
- sensitive to criticism

**Claudio**

- Though I swore not to marry, I will change my mind if Hero says she’ll have me.
- He is described as ‘doing in the figure of a lamb the feats of a lion’
- He says, ‘Therefore all hearts in love use their own tongues’
- He says, ‘Lady, as you are mine, I am yours: I give away myself for you, and dote upon the exchange’

**Characteristics:**
- brave
- shy
- jumps to conclusions
- temperamental

**Beatrice**

- I ‘cannot endure to hear tell of a husband’
- She is called ‘my Lady Tongue’ because ‘every word stabs’
- She says, ‘A bird of my tongue is better than a beast of yours’

**Characteristics:**
- witty
- merry
- headstrong
- mischievous
- competitive

**Hero**

- I’ll marry whoever my father tells me to, but there is someone I’d prefer.
- She is called a ‘jewel’
- She says, ‘I will do any modest office … to help my cousin to a good husband’

**Characteristics:**
- virtuous
- pure
- obedient
- sweet
I, Benedick, do hereby swear that if ever I am in
LOVE, you may:

❤ Pick out my eyes with a love-song writer’s pen
   [Line 186]

❤ Hang me in front of a brothel as a sign of
   Cupid’s blindness
   [Line 187]

❤ Hang me in a wicker basket ['bottle']
   like a cat and
   shoot at me.
   [Line 191]

❤ Put bulls horns on my forehead
   paint hideously and in large letters
   write ‘Here is a good horse to hire’
   [Lines 196-99]