**Leonato’s plan**

*Much Ado about Nothing* by William Shakespeare

**In Act 5 scene 1** Claudio says he will do anything to make up for the mistake he has made in believing Don John’s evil plan and therefore causing Hero’s death.

**Match the parts of Leonato’s speech below to their modern translation:**

I cannot bid you bid my daughter live –
that were impossible

Make an inscription for her tomb and
sing it to her body tonight

but, I pray you both, possess the people
in Messina here how innocent she died

My brother has a daughter very much
like Hero and she is heir to my fortune
and to my brother’s

Hang her an epitaph upon her tomb, and
sing it to her bones, sing it tonight.

but please tell the people of Messina that
she was innocent when she died

Tomorrow morning, come you to my
house, and since you could not be my
son-in-law, be yet my nephew.

It is impossible for you to bring my
daughter back to life

My brother hath a daughter, almost the
copy of my child that’s dead, and she
alone is heir to both of us.

Marry her as you should have married
Hero and I will not take revenge on you
for the death of my child.

Give her the right you should have giv’n
her cousin, and so dies my revenge.

Come to my house tomorrow morning
and you can be my nephew rather than
my son-in-law

1. Why does Leonato want people in Messina to know that Hero is innocent?

2. What two things does Leonato ask Claudio to do?

3. What will Claudio find out when he gets to the altar to marry Leonato’s ‘niece’?