

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR Activity Pack 2



Falstaff is a jolly, fat man who never has any money – he spends more than he can afford.

He decides he will start affairs with two rich ladies to solve his money problems.

Mrs Ford and Mrs Page work out what he is doing and plan their revenge.

He gets thrown 'accidentally' in the river.

Then has to dress as a woman and is chased away.

Then is tricked to the forest at night where they tease him by pretending to be fairies and scaring him.

They eventually tell him the truth and he learns his lesson!

Falstaff begins by writing the very same letter to each of them.

*Ask me no reason why I love you.
You are not young, no more am I;
go to then, there's sympathy.
You are merry, so am I; ha, ha!
Then there's more sympathy.
You love beer, and so do I;
would you desire better sympathy?
Let it suffice you, Mistress that I love you.
I will not say, pity me—
it's not a soldier-like phrase—
but I say, love me.
By me,
Your own true knight,
By day or night,
Or any kind of light,
With all his might
For you to fight,
John Falstaff.*

This may be the worst love letter ever! In keeping with the dreadfulness of it, rewrite it into modern language (telling them that aren't young etc).

Falstaff thinks he is some amazing knight who everyone admires, if only his wallet was as big as his ego! Imagine he is writing his dating profile for online dating – what would he say?

Name

Age

Job

Height

Weight

Physical characteristics

Likes

Dislikes

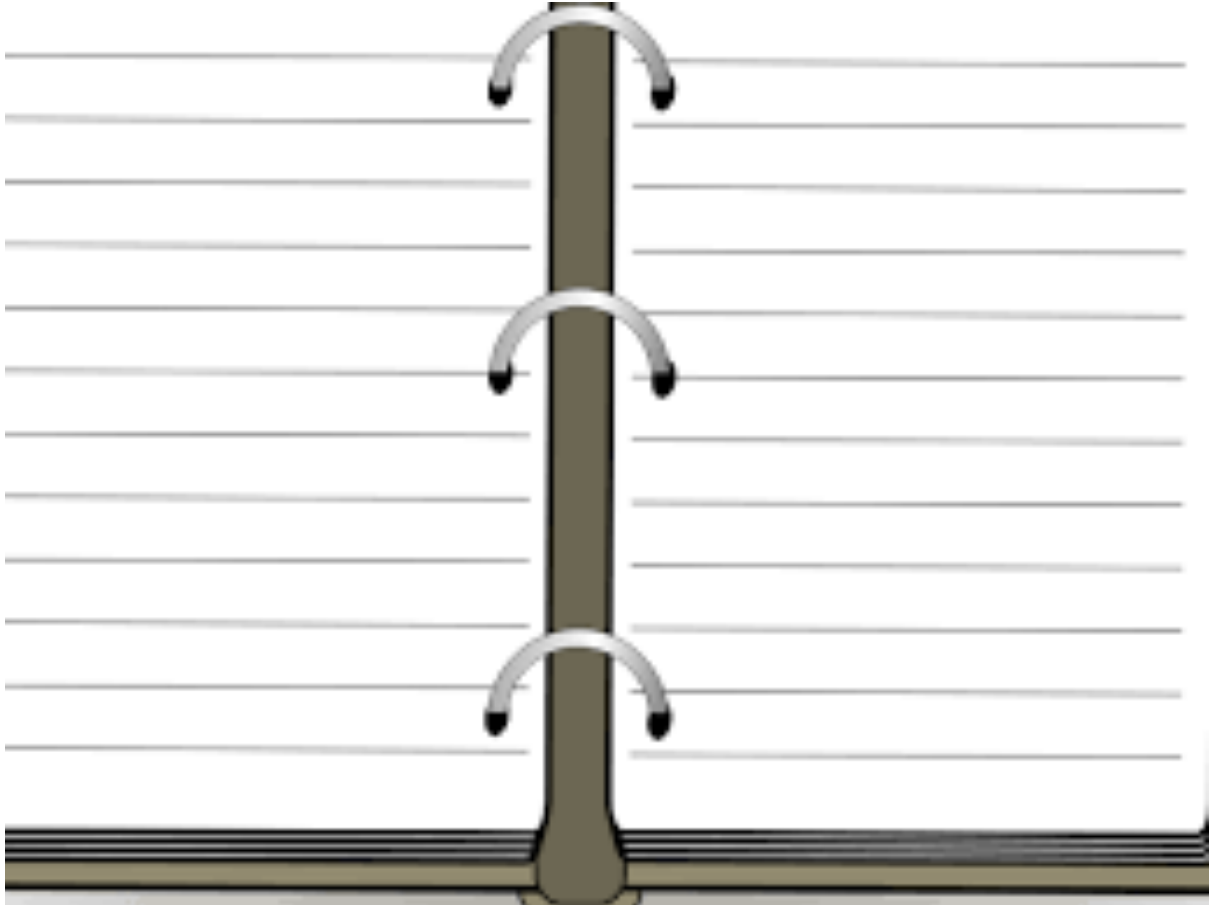
Looking for

Ideal first date

What my friends would say about me

Things you should know about me

If someone answered that profile and chatted to him and then went on a date, what would the reality be? Imagine their diary entry that night, after their date with this man who described themselves as so eligible and amazing but in reality was rather different.....



What might she say in a text to a friend about the date?

What would Falstaff text his friends about the date?

What would she say in response to him asking for a second date?

Mrs Page and Mrs Ford are really good friends and they immediately share the letters with each other and plan their revenge on the hapless Falstaff. They decide to invite him to Mrs Ford's house then when her husband returns to make him hide in the basket filled with dirty laundry which is being taken to the river for washing. The second revenge is to invite him back and then make him disguise himself as a hated fat Aunt (Mr Ford then chases him out of the house) and then finally they tell their husbands and get a number of locals to dress as fairies in the nighttime and to scare him when he meets them in the forest for a romantic evening. What other revenge plots could they have considered (they want to make fun of him and hurt his pride but not physically hurt him, be as creative as you can.

Falstaff loves the Alehouse and spends much of his time in there propping up the bar and filling their tills with his money. They decide to do a special beer in his honour – design the promotional material for it

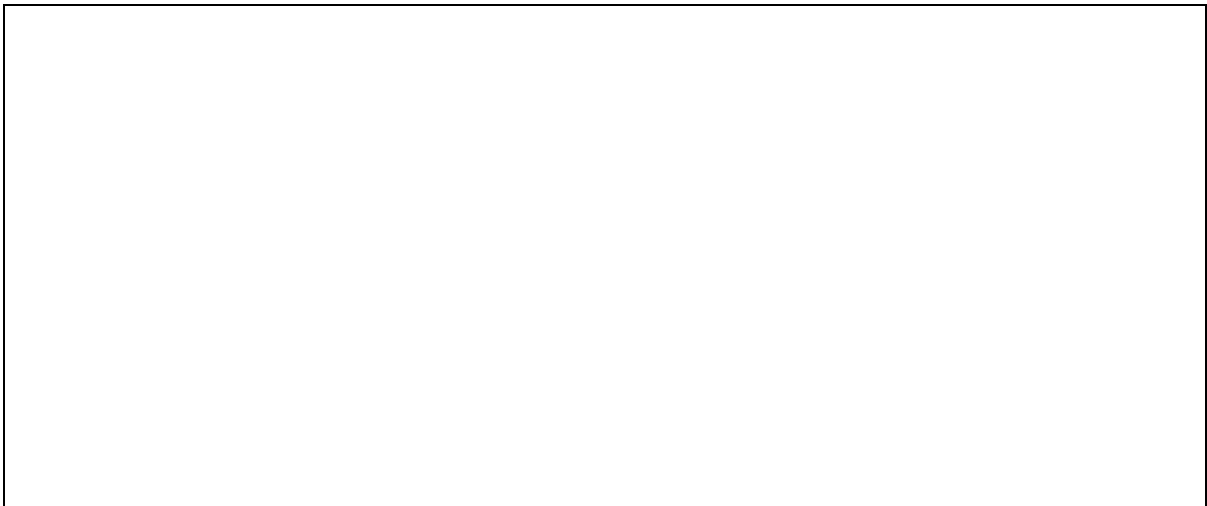
Name of beer –

% of beer –

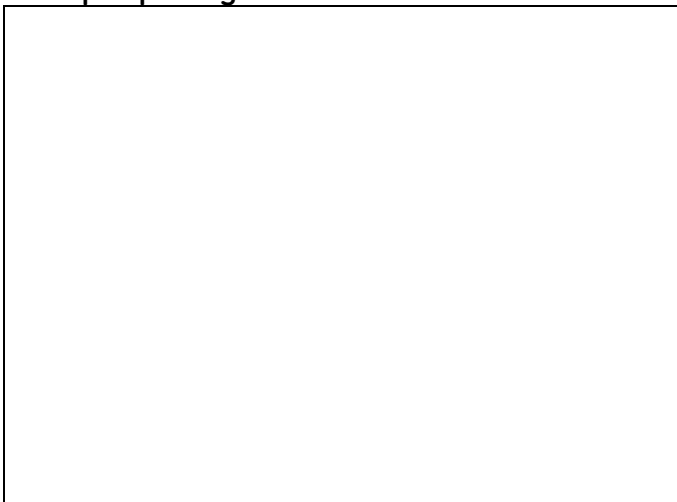
What kind of beer –

Description for the promotional pack/advertising –

Lable for the bottles –



Beer pump badge –



Mr and Mrs Page also have a daughter who is beautiful and everyone wants to marry. Mr Page wants her to marry a young and quite simple man called Slender. Mrs Page wants her to marry the French Dr Caus. Ann Page wants to marry the young and handsome Fenton. How might these three look if you drew them as caricatures?

