

How would you summarise Caliban?

What does Caliban look like?

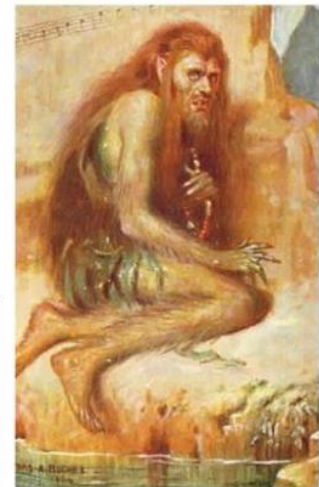


What is Caliban's background?

What is the relationship like between Prospero and Caliban?

What are his main character traits?

How does Caliban scheme against Prospero throughout the play?



'a savage and deformed slave'

'A man or a fish?'

'There would this monster make a man.'

'This is no fish but an islander.'



How would you dress and act to fit these character descriptions?



Act 1 Scene 2 – Lines 307-374

PROSPERO

Shake it off. Come on;
We'll visit Caliban my slave, who never
Yields us kind answer.

How does Caliban speak to his master?

MIRANDA

'Tis a villain, sir,
I do not love to look on.

PROSPERO

But, as 'tis,
We cannot miss him: he does make our fire,
Fetch in our wood and serves in offices
That profit us. What, ho! slave! Caliban!
Thou earth, thou! speak.

What jobs does Caliban perform for Prospero?

What do you think of the way Prospero speaks to Caliban?

CALIBAN

[Within] There's wood enough within.

What tone do you think Caliban should say this in?

PROSPERO

Come forth, I say! there's other business for thee:
Come, thou tortoise! when?

Re-enter ARIEL like a water-nymph
Fine apparition! My quaint Ariel,
Hark in thine ear.

ARIEL

My lord it shall be done.

Exit

PROSPERO

Thou poisonous slave, got by the devil himself
Upon thy wicked dam, come forth!

Enter CALIBAN

Who are Caliban's parents?

CALIBAN

CALIBAN: As wicked dew as e'er my mother brush'd
With raven's feather from unwholesome fen
Drop on you both! a south-west blow on ye
And blister you all o'er!

In what way do these lines sound like Sycorax?

PROSPERO: For this, be sure, to-night thou shalt have cramps,
Side-stitches that shall pen thy breath up; urchins
Shall, for that vast of night that they may work,
All exercise on thee; thou shalt be pinch'd
As thick as honeycomb, each pinch more stinging
Than bees that made 'em.

Prospero is threatening to give Caliban a night full of pain and discomfort. How do you think Caliban might look when Prospero is saying this?

CALIBAN: I must eat my dinner.
This island's mine, by Sycorax my mother,
Which thou takest from me. When thou camest first,
Thou strokedst me and madest much of me, wouldst give me
Water with berries in't, and teach me how
To name the bigger light, and how the less,
That burn by day and night: and then I loved thee
And show'd thee all the qualities o' the isle,
The fresh springs, brine-pits, barren place and fertile:
Cursed be I that did so! All the charms
Of Sycorax, toads, beetles, bats, light on you!
For I am all the subjects that you have,
Which first was mine own king: and here you sty me
In this hard rock, whiles you do keep from me
The rest o' the island.

Look at the second sentence in this speech. Which words do you think should be emphasised?

What did Prospero do for Caliban when he first came to the island? How might Caliban sound when he is recollecting this part of the past?

How and when should the tone change?

Act 3 Scene 2 Lines 43-153

CALIBAN: As I told thee before, I am subject to a tyrant, a sorcerer, that by his cunning hath cheated me of the island.

How is Caliban feeling here?

ARIEL: Thou liest.

CALIBAN: Thou liest, thou jesting monkey, thou: I would my valiant master would destroy thee! I do not lie.

Who does Caliban think has said this line? How does he respond?

STEPHANO: Trinculo, if you trouble him any more in's tale, by this hand, I will supplant some of your teeth.

TRINCULO: Why, I said nothing.

STEPHANO: Mum, then, and no more. Proceed.

CALIBAN: I say, by sorcery he got this isle;
From me he got it. if thy greatness will
Revenge it on him,--for I know thou darest,
But this thing dare not,--

How does Caliban convince Stephano to act for him?

STEPHANO: That's most certain.

CALIBAN: Thou shalt be lord of it and I'll serve thee.

STEPHANO: How now shall this be compassed?
Canst thou bring me to the party?

CALIBAN: Yea, yea, my lord: I'll yield him thee asleep,
Where thou mayst knock a nail into his bead.

What body language could be used with this violent phrase?

ARIEL: Thou liest; thou canst not.

CALIBAN: What a pied ninny's this! Thou scurvy patch!
I do beseech thy greatness, give him blows
And take his bottle from him: when that's gone
He shall drink nought but brine; for I'll not show him
Where the quick freshes are.

How could Caliban show through his posture that he does not like Trinculo but he likes Stephano?

STEPHANO: Trinculo, run into no further danger:
interrupt the monster one word further, and,
by this hand, I'll turn my mercy out o' doors
and make a stock-fish of thee.

TRINCULO: Why, what did I? I did nothing. I'll go farther
off.

STEPHANO: Didst thou not say he lied?

ARIEL: Thou liest.

STEPHANO: Do I so? take thou that.

Beats TRINCULO
As you like this, give me the lie another time.

TRINCULO: I did not give the lie. Out o' your
wits and bearing too? A pox o' your bottle!
this can sack and drinking do. A murrain on
your monster, and the devil take your fingers!

CALIBAN: Ha, ha, ha!

Is Caliban concerned by Trinculo's threats?

STEPHANO: Now, forward with your tale. Prithee, stand farther
off.

CALIBAN: Beat him enough: after a little time
I'll beat him too.

STEPHANO: Stand farther. Come, proceed.

CALIBAN: Why, as I told thee, 'tis a custom with him,
I' th' afternoon to sleep: there thou mayst brain him,
Having first seized his books, or with a log
Batter his skull, or paunch him with a stake,
Or cut his wezand with thy knife. Remember
First to possess his books; for without them
He's but a sot, as I am, nor hath not
One spirit to command: they all do hate him
As rootedly as I. Burn but his books.
He has brave utensils,--for so he calls them--
Which when he has a house, he'll deck withal
And that most deeply to consider is
The beauty of his daughter; he himself
Calls her a nonpareil: I never saw a woman,
But only Sycorax my dam and she;
But she as far surpasseth Sycorax

What body language could be used with these violent phrases?

How could Caliban show his desire for Miranda?

STEPHANO: Is it so brave a lass?

CALIBAN: Ay, lord; she will become thy bed, I warrant.
And bring thee forth brave brood.

Why do you think Caliban is being so crude about Miranda?

STEPHANO: Monster, I will kill this man: his daughter and I will be king and queen--save our graces!--and Trinculo and thyself shall be viceroys. Dost thou like the plot, Trinculo?

How could Caliban non verbally respond to this statement?

TRINCULO: Excellent.

STEPHANO: Give me thy hand: I am sorry I beat thee; but, while thou livest, keep a good tongue in thy head.

CALIBAN: Within this half hour will he be asleep:
Wilt thou destroy him then?

How could you demonstrate Caliban's eagerness?

STEPHANO: Ay, on mine honour.

ARIEL: This will I tell my master.

CALIBAN: Thou makest me merry; I am full of pleasure:
Let us be jocund: will you troll the catch
You taught me but while-ere?

STEPHANO: At thy request, monster, I will do reason, any reason. Come on, Trinculo, let us sing.

Sings: Flout 'em and scout 'em
And scout 'em and flout 'em
Thought is free.

CALIBAN: That's not the tune.
Ariel plays the tune on a tabour and pipe

STEPHANO: What is this same?

TRINCULO: This is the tune of our catch, played by the picture of Nobody.

STEPHANO: If thou beest a man, show thyself in thy likeness:
if thou beest a devil, take't as thou list.

TRINCULO: O, forgive me my sins!

STEPHANO: He that dies pays all debts: I defy thee. Mercy upon us!

CALIBAN: Art thou afeard?

What is Caliban appealing to here?


STEPHANO: No, monster, not I.

CALIBAN: Be not afeard; the isle is full of noises,
Sounds and sweet airs, that give delight and hurt not.
Sometimes a thousand twangling instruments
Will hum about mine ears, and sometime voices
That, if I then had waked after long sleep,
Will make me sleep again: and then, in dreaming,
The clouds methought would open and show riches
Ready to drop upon me that, when I waked,

How does this final sentence show a different side to Caliban? In what way would he say this line?

STEPHANO: This will prove a brave kingdom to me, where I shall have my music for nothing.

CALIBAN: When Prospero is destroyed.



How could you say this assertively?

STEPHANO: That shall be by and by: I remember the story.

TRINCULO: The sound is going away; let's follow it, and after do our work.

STEPHANO: Lead, monster; we'll follow. I would I could see this tabourer; he lays it on.

TRINCULO: Wilt come? I'll follow, Stephano.

Exeunt