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debts . . ."; Act 2: Departure; Scene 1. ""what braggardism is this?""; Scene 2. ""Give him a livery""; 1-30 ""An enemy may chance to give good counsel""; 31-35 ""this is my true-begotten father""; 36-95 ""it is a wise father that knows his own child""; 95-148 ""I have brought him a present""; 149-160 ""Such beginning, such end""; 161-197 Epilogue: ""Something too liberal""

Scene 3. ""Farewell good Launcelot"" Scene 3. (continued). ""We paint the devil foul . . ."; Scene 4. ""Will you prepare you for this masque to-night?""; Scene 5. ""Lock up my doors . . ."; Scene 6. ""No masque tonight . . ."; 1-21 ""Haste makes waste""; 22-25 ""Here dwells my father Jew""; 26-32 ""Who are you?""; 33-50 ""catch this casket""; 51-59 ""wise, fair, and true""; 60-68 ""the wind is come about""; Scene 7. ""I stand for sacrifice""; Scene 8. ""by some nuntius to recount the things""; Scene 9. ""Hanging and wiving goes by destiny"" 1-84 ""I will use them according to their desert"" 85-101 ""he bringeth sensible regrets""; Act 3: The Choice; Scene 1. ""if you wrong us shall we not revenge?""; 1-66 ""The villainy you teach me I will execute""; 67-120 ""thou torturest me Tubal""; Scene 2. ""If you do love me, you will find me out""; 1-24 ""I pray you tarry""; 24-38 ""Promise me life . . ."; 39-41 ""Suit the action to the word""; 42-53 ""Let music sound . . ."; 53-62 ""while he doth make his choice""; 63-72 ""Tell me where is fancy bred?""; 73 ""So may the outward shows be least themselves""

Sommario/riassunto

"What may words say_?" contains a comprehensive and in many respects unconventional interpretation of The Merchant of Venice. The play's development of ideas is unfolded in a literary analysis that focuses on the poet's words in their philological, historical, and philosophical contexts.
