
REVISION QUESTIONS

1. Is *Volpone* a tragi-comedy?
2. What significance does gold have in the play?
3. Discuss Jonson's use of satire in *Volpone*.
4. Analyse and discuss the relationship between the 'gulls' and the 'knaves'.
5. *Volpone* attacks many human weaknesses. What values are implied in the play?
6. Describe and discuss Jonson's use of language in *Volpone*.
7. Discuss the play's imagery.
8. Comment on the view that the subject of *Volpone* is greed.
9. Describe the relationship between Volpone and Mosca.
10. To what extent is *Volpone* about disease and death?
11. Discuss the significance of the sub-plot.
12. To what extent do you think that Jonson's characters are one-dimensional?

FURTHER READING

- Armstrong, W., 'Ben Jonson and Jacobean Stagecraft', in J. Russell Brown and Bernard Harris (eds.) *The Jacobean Theatre* (London: Arnold, 1960).
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- Barish, Jonas A. (ed.), *Jonson Volpone a Casebook* (London: Macmillan, 1972).
- Dick, Alike Lafkidou, *Paedeia through Laughter* (The Hague: Mouton, 1974).
- Gum, Coburn, *The Aristophanic Comedies of Ben Jonson* (The Hague: Mouton, 1969).
- Herford, C. H., and Simpson, Percy, (eds.), *Ben Jonson*, 11 vols (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1925–52).
- Knights, L. C., *Drama and Society in the Age of Jonson* (London: Chatto and Windus 1937).
- Knights, L. C., 'Ben Jonson Dramatist', in *The Age of Shakespeare* (London: Penguin Books, 1955).
- Partridge, Edward B., *The Broken Compass: A Study of the Major Comedies of Ben Jonson* (London: Chatto and Windus, 1958).
- Summers, Claude J. and Ted-Larry Pebworth, *Ben Jonson* (Boston: Twayne Publishers, 1979).