**Song for Scene Cutting Activity:**

Segment from “Brush Up Your Shakespeare” *[Kiss Me Kate]*

ARTIST: Cole Porter

The girls today in society go for classical poetry

So to win their hearts one must quote with ease

Aeschylus and Euripides

One must know Homer, and believe me, Beau

Sophocles, also Sappho-ho

Unless you know Shelley and Keats and Pope

Dainty Debbies will call you a dope

But the poet of them all

Who will start 'em simply ravin'

Is the poet people call The Bard of Stratford on Avon

{Refrain}

Brush up your Shakespeare

Start quoting him now

Brush up your Shakespeare

And the women you will wow

Just declaim a few lines from Othella

And they'll think you're a hell of a fella

If your blonde won't respond when you flatter 'er

Tell her what Tony told Cleopatterer

If she says your behavior is heinous

Kick her right in the Coriolanus

Brush up your Shakespeare And they'll all kow-tow

**Scene for Scene Cutting Activity:**

Segment from *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged* (Revised)

By Adam Long, Jess Winfield, Daniel Singer

ADAM: Can I have some house lights please? [*House lights come up. To an audience member*.] Can I

borrow your program for a sec? [*He grabs a program from a patron, which must contain a list of the plays. If there’s no program, he may consult the* Complete Works *book*.]

DANIEL: What are you doing?

ADAM: I just want to check the list of plays. I think we might have done ’em all already.

JESS: Really?

ADAM: Yeah, see, we did all the histories just now--

DANIEL: The comedies were ‘a lump of hilarity.’

JESS: Okay, that leaves the tragedies. We did *Titus Andronicus* with all the blood--

ADAM: *Romeo and Juliet* we did--

DANIEL: *Julius Caesar, Troilus and Cressida*, right--

JESS: We rapped *Othello*, Lear was in the football game, *Macbeth* we did with Scottish accents. What about *Antony and Cleopatra*?

ADAM: Yeah, I puked on that lady over there--

JESS: Right. *Timon of Athens* I mentioned. *Coriolanus*?

ADAM: Eh...let’s skip it.

JESS: Why? What’s the matter with *Coriolanus*?

ADAM: I don’t like the ’anus’ part. I think it’s offensive.

DANIEL: Okay; so we’ll skip the anus play.

ADAM: And that’s it, right? That’s all of them!!

DANIEL: Wow. Great. [*Checks the time. To audience*.] Looks like we can let you go a little early.

JESS: Hey, no, you guys . . . [*Points to a spot in the program*.]

ALL: *Hamlet*!

DANIEL: Oh man.

ADAM: Shakespeare didn’t write Hamlet.

DANIEL: Sure he did.

ADAM: What’s it about?

JESS: You know, the young prince struggling with his conscience after his uncle murders his father?

ADAM: Dude, that’s The Lion King.

JESS: Ladies and gentlemen, thirty-six plays down, one to go. Perhaps the greatest play ever written. A

play of such lofty poetic and philosophical--

ADAM: [*Tugging at* JESS*’ sleeve*] Wait a minute, Jess. Hamlet is a serious, hard-core play, and I’m just

not up for it right now.

JESS: Whaddaya mean? It’s the last one!

ADAM: I know. It’s just that that football game left me emotionally and physically drained. I don’t think

that I could do it justice.

DANIEL: We don’t have to do it justice. We just have to do it.

ADAM: I don’t wanna do it!

JESS: Look, Adam. Our show’s called *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare.*

ADAM: Okay, so we’ll change it to *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Except Hamlet*.

JESS: That’s the most ridiculous thing I’ve ever heard.

DANIEL: Adam, I think all your new little friends would like to see it. [*To audience*.] What do you say, would you like to see *Hamlet*?

[*Audience responds*.]

ADAM: Okay, fine. We’ll do *Hamlet*--

DANIEL *and* JESS: Great—

ADAM: As a two-man show! If you guys feel so strongly about it then you do it. I’m going to hang out

with them. [*Sits next to a random audience member*.] She’s my friend. I’ll sit here and we’ll watch it together.

DANIEL: C’mon. Adam—

[JESS *and* DANIEL *try to pry him loose from the audience member, but* ADAM *starts to get hysterical*.]

ADAM: You can’t make me do it!

JESS *and* DANIEL [*ad lib, to* ADAM.] Let go of her! (etc.)

ADAM: [*To audience member*.] Don’t let go, you’re all I have in the world.

[JESS *and* DANIEL *pry* ADAM *loose from the audience member and drag him roughly onto the stage*.]

ADAM: Okay, okay, okay! Just don’t touch me.

JESS: Okay, jeez! [*He tosses a now-crumpled wad back to the audience member*.] Here’s your program; sorry, it got kinda trashed. [To everyone.] Right. We start off with the guard scene, so we’ll need Bernardo and Horatio.

DANIEL: Gotcha.

JESS: We’ll need Rosencrantz and Guildenstern too.

DANIEL: Nah, they’ve got their own play, we can skip them. [*While they’re distracted,* ADAM *sprints toward the exit at the back of the theater.* DANIEL *sees him*.] Hey, where do you think you’re going?!

[JESS *sprints after him.* ADAM *grabs and audience member, preferably a youngster.*]

ADAM: I’ll kill little Timmy! I’ll kill him!

JESS: Fine, but I think it’s gonna turn him off to live theater.

[ADAM *lets go of his victim and runs out the back of the house*]

JESS: Get back here, you Shakespeare weenie!