

Read the following extract from Act 4 Scene 1 of *Much Ado About Nothing* and then answer the questions that follow.

At this point in the play, Hero has been publicly shamed at her wedding and has fainted.

Friar Have comfort, lady.

Leonato Dost thou look up?

Friar Francis Yea, wherefore should she not?

Leonato Wherefore! Why, doth not every earthly thing
Cry shame upon her? Could she here deny
The story that is printed in her blood?
Do not live, Hero; do not ope thine eyes;
For, did I think thou wouldst not quickly die,
Thought I thy spirits were stronger than thy shames,
Myself would, on the rearward of reproaches,
Strike at thy life. Griev'd I, I had but one?
Chid I for that at frugal nature's frame?
O one too much by thee! Why had I one?
Why ever wast thou lovely in my eyes?
Why had I not with charitable hand
Took up a beggar's issue at my gates,
Who smirched thus and mired with infamy,
I might have said 'No part of it is mine;
This shame derives itself from unknown loins.'
But mine, and mine I lov'd, and mine I prais'd,
And mine that I was proud on; mine so much
That I myself was to myself not mine,
Valuing of her,- why she, O, she is fallen
Into a pit of ink, that the wide sea
Hath drops too few to wash her clean again,
And salt too little which may season give
To her foul, tainted flesh!

Starting with this extract, explain how Shakespeare presents Leonato's relationship with his daughter, Hero.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Leonato's attitude to Hero in the extract
- how Shakespeare presents Leonato's relationship with Hero in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]