

**2.1**

Describe the relationship between Hermione and her son.

Who proposes a winter's tale? Why?

Why does Leontes separate Mamillius from Hermione?

Where do you see imagery about poison, infection, spiders?

How do Leontes's courtiers regard Hermione and Leontes's accusations?  
In particular, what does Antigonus say?

How does Hermione respond to her imprisonment? Examine these important lines: 2.1. 116-124.

**2.2**

Why can Paulina not visit Hermione? What do we learn from the conversation between Paulina and Emilia?

Upon what argument does Paulina take Hermione's child with her? And to what purpose?

**2.3**

Why cannot Leontes rest?

How do we learn that Mamillius is sick? To what does Leontes attribute the sickness?

Why does Leontes postpone his vengeance against Polixenes (and Camillo)?

In these scenes, we hear much talk of *honor*, *honest*, *loss*, *grace*. Where and why?

In 2.3. 42-44, what do we learn about Leontes and Paulina? In this scene what do we learn about the marriage of Antigonus and Paulina?

Please notice WS's use of broken lines in this scene: 26, 30, 32, 39, 41, 44, 52, 46, 50, 58, 59, 61, 66, 68, 72, 76, 79, 81, 82, 90, 95, 107, 109, 111, 113, 120, 141, 143, 145, 162, 168, 191, 192, 196, 197. Why? How can WS and this scene justify each of these broken lines?

What does Leontes wish to do with the "bastard" daughter at first? Ultimately, what horror does he settle on for her? Why does he choose Antigonus as his

agent? What does Leontes conclude about all of his counsellors? If Antigonus and the others fail to carry out Leontes's wishes, what punishment does he promise?

How long since Cleomenes and Dion left to consult the oracle at Delphi? The scene ends with preparation for what event?