Act One Questions – Othello

1. What is Iago's complaint in Scene I? In other words, why does Iago hate Othello?
2. Who is Brabantio, and why do Iago and Roderigo awaken him in the middle of the night?
3. Why does Iago leave Roderigo at Brabantio's house rather than wait until Brabantio comes down?
4. What is Roderigo’s previous relationship with Brabantio and Desdemona?
5. What is Brabantio's reaction to Othello's marriage to Desdemona?
6. Why does the Duke send for Othello? What danger is Cyprus facing?
7. What accusation does Brabantio make against Othello to the Duke?
8. What explanation does Othello give as cause for Desdemona's affections for him?
9. Brabantio complains to the Duke about Othello's marriage to Desdemona. After listening to both sides of the
10. story, what is the Duke's reply?
11. To whom does Desdemona pledge her duty?
12. What warning does Brabantio give to Othello?
13. What is Roderigo's complaint, and what is Iago's reply to it?
14. According to the soliloquy at the end of play, what additional reason doe s Iago have for “hat[ing] the Moor”?

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