Taming of the Shrew
Act 1 Quiz

Answer Key

1. Where is the play set? What difference does this make?
The play is set in Padua, Italy. The first scene takes place in front of Baptista's house. The fact that it is set in Italy doesn't make much difference but that the scene is in front of Baptista's house makes it a public place therefore allowing Lucentio to overhear the conversation and see Bianca for the first time.

2. Which character is described as an “irksome brawling scold?” Is this a fitting description?
Kate is described as an irksome brawling scold and a shrew. From what she says in this first act it seems fitting. She threatens to hurt Hortensio, or at least says she would like to.

3. Why does Bianca have so many suitors? Who are they?
Bianca is the “good” daughter. She is in contrast to Kate and is seen as mild and sweet. She is therefore in high demand from the men in the community.

4. What happens when Lucentio arrives in town?
When Lucentio arrives in town he says he is there to study but then he sees Bianca and falls in love at first sight.

5. What is Petruchio’s chief goal for his arrival in Padua?
Petruchio announces that he wants to wed wealthily. That is he wants to make money from his marriage. This is what makes him perfect for Kate.