

2 Henry 4: Study Guide Questions

Briefly summarize where 1 Henry IV breaks off and 2 Henry IV begins:

Prince Hal—

Falstaff—

Sir Walter Blunt—

King Henry IV's plans?—

Hotspur—

Earl of Northumberland (H. Percy, Sr.)—

Owen Glendower—

Richard Scroop, Archbishop of York—

Thomas Percy, Earl of Worcester—

The Douglas—

Prologue/Induction

1. How is Rumor costumed? Significance?
2. What does Rumor say he does?
3. List and analyze the images Rumor presents. Which is your favorite? Why?
4. What does Rumor say is his specific purpose now? What is his present plan?
5. What does Rumor mean when he says that “. . . Hotspur's father, old Northumberland,/ Lies crafty sick” (36-7)?
6. Explain his last line. Do you agree?

Act 1, Scene 1

1. What news does the Lord Bardolph (no relation to the tavern/bawdy house Bardolph) bring to Northumberland?
2. What news from Travers?
3. How does Northumberland respond to Morton even before hearing the news about his son?
Explain the passage— He that but fears the thing he would not know
 Hath by instinct knowledge from others' eyes
 That which he feared is chanced. (1.1.84-6)
4. Briefly summarize the news that Morton tells Northumberland.
5. How does Northumberland respond?
6. How do Travers, Lord Bardolph, and Morton respond to Northumberland?
7. According to Morton, what is the Archbishop of York's (Scroop) role now? What is he doing, and what is he using to accomplish his goal?
8. Northumberland's plans?