**What might your allusion be saying about the upper class?**

*Loss of morals*

*Loss of religion*

*Loss of culture*

* **Upper class is mixing in with the common class because the lines are blurring between classes**
* **Upper class doesn’t feel special anymore**
* **Upper class no longer value relationships**
* **Upper class no longer held up in high regard/esteem**
* **Upper class are making their fortune off dirty money**
* **Pointlessness and uselessness of the upper class. None of them are doing anything of value anymore**

“A Game of Chess” / “Woman Beware Woman”

* Thomas Middleton in 1624
* Conflict: Relationships between Spain and England (allies but technically against each other)
* Satire
* Characters are addressed as chess pieces rather than names. White pieces: English / Black pieces: Spanish
* Reference to “The Tempest” – a game of chess being played, which is a conflict between characters

“Women Beware Women” – seduction of a woman while the mother-in-law plays chess

**Key words: Conflict between people (relationship)**

**Conflict: classical culture and high society – losing their status as elite and wealthy; conflict between those in high society and those who are gaining wealth**

**- adultery, relationships, being so self involved that you are oblivious to what is happening around you.**

Cleopatra

* Last queen/ruler of Egypt
* Ruled the country in turmoil and protected everyone from the Roman empire
* She had an affair with Caesar
* Committed suicide because her lover committed suicide
	+ Marcus Antonius + Cleopatra. Mark Antony kills himself when he fears a loss of war (he thought she betrayed him), so Cleopatra “joins him”

**Tragic, misunderstandings, miscommunication**

**Dramatic deaths, devotion/honor/loyalty**

**Pointless and selfish deaths**

Philomela – myth

* Daughters of King of Athens
* Philomela is raped by her brother-in-law
* He fears that she will tell people so the brother-in-law cuts off Philomela’s tongue
* Philomela weaves a tapestry so she can tell her sister what happened.
* Her sister discovers what happened, so the sister kills her son and cooks him in a stew. She feeds the stew to her husband
* Philomela turns into a nightingale to escape
* When you hear a nightingale, you are hearing Philomela

**Words that come to mind: rape, stew, betrayal, loss of morals, consent, murder, brutality, punishment/vindication**

**Upper class: We are losing morals (in terms of relationships) and becoming brutal/thoughtless**