Ferdinand’s ‘revenge’?

In groups or pairs, discuss Webster’s characterisation of Ferdinand. Your discussion should focus on the question:
Is Ferdinand’s treatment of his sister merely revenge because she has disobeyed and deceived him (in marrying Antonio) or are his motives more complex?

The following should help you to consider this question:

• Read at the following extract:

FERDINAND: Me thinks I see her laughing – Excellent hyena! Talk to me somewhat quickly, Or my imagination will carry me To see her in a shameful act of sin.

CARDINAL: With whom?

FERDINAND: Happily with some strong-thighed bargeman: Or one of the woodyard that can quoit the sledge Or toss the bar; or else some lovely squire That carries coals up to her privy lodgings.

CARDINAL: You fly beyond reason.

FERDINAND: Go to, mistress, ‘Tis not your whore’s milk that shall quench my wild fire, But your whore’s blood!