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Individual Learning Packet

Teaching Unit

Romeo and Juliet

by William Shakespeare

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Objectives

By the end of this unit, the student will be able to

- 1. define "courtly love" and "true love" and indicate what role each plays in this drama.
- 2. understand and explain the term "star-crossed lover" and its significance in this play.
- 3. explain how Romeo and Juliet's love is different from both courtly love and vulgar love.
- 4. write a character sketch of Romeo illustrating how he grows and matures throughout the play.
- 5. explain how both the Nurse and the Friar function as confidantes.
- 6. identify major themes that are developed throughout the play.
- 7. comment on the role Fate plays in this drama.
- 8. define "comic relief" and identify specific examples.
- 9. identify those features that characterize the language of the common people in a Shakespearean play.
- 10. identify couplets throughout the play.
- 11. interpret major lines with ease and appreciation.
- 12. correctly identify prose style.
- 13. define and cite examples of the following terms and definitions:

foreshadowing allusion half rhyme anaphora aside irony climax malapropism comic relief metaphor confidant(e) monologue couplet omen exposition prologue falling action prose figurative language pun resolution foil

rhyme scheme rising action setting soliloquy sonnet symbol theme tragic hero verse

Questions for Essay and Discussion

- 1. Fate is involved in the play over and over again. How does fate bring about the death of the lovers? Mention and discuss at least four incidents.
- 2. Some critics believe that Romeo and Juliet change and mature over the course of the play. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific examples in the play to support your opinion.
- 3. What view of love do both Mercutio and the Nurse represent? What view of love does Romeo's love for Rosaline represent? What view of love do Romeo and Juliet share? Provide support for each answer.
- 4. What does the Prince represent, and why must he bear some of the responsibility for the tragic deaths?
- 5. Point out the ways in which this play presents a clash of generations.
- 6. What role does Paris play in the drama, and why is his persona important for the action in the play?
- 7. While the Nurse is Juliet's confidante, the Friar is Romeo's. Compare and contrast these two as counselors.
- 8. Write a character sketch of Romeo pointing out how he is similar to and different from his friends Mercutio and Benvolio.
- 9. Point out the language patterns of the common people and identify at least three instances where these characters function as comic relief.
- 10. Some see fate and Divine Providence as the same thing; that is, some power or outside force determines the course of our lives. While Divine Providence assumes that God is the higher power, the force or power behind fate is left undefined. Write a paper in which you state your thoughts on this topic. Do you think that some invisible force or power governs the unfolding of our lives, or do our lives just unfold randomly? If you believe our lives are guided, do you believe it is God or some other force that is directing them?
- 11. Write a paragraph explaining your opinion on whether it is right or wrong for fourteen-year-old girls to get married during the historical time in which this play takes place.
- 12. Given the time, place, and circumstances in this play, do you think Friar Laurence is wrong in marrying Romeo and Juliet without first informing their parents?
- 13. By referring to comments and incidents in the play, support the following statement: "One theme in this play is the need for strong authority figures to take necessary actions to prevent feuds and disorder from creating disturbances in society."

Test

Multiple Choice

- 1. In the prologue, Romeo and Juliet are referred to as
 - A. the unhappy hero, and the luckless heroine.
 - B. star-crossed lovers.
 - C. pampered children of the rich.
 - D. pictures of young love.
 - E. rebels without a cause.
- 2. Romeo and Juliet meet
 - A. at a Capulet masquerade ball.
 - B. at a Montague masquerade ball.
 - C. at a royal dinner party.
 - D. in the public square.
 - E. in a garden.
- 3. As the play opens, Romeo is sad because
 - A. a good friend has just been killed.
 - B. he has not yet been able to speak with Juliet.
 - C. he is hopelessly in love with a woman who is not returning his love.
 - D. his parents have refused to lend him money.
 - E. his horse has escaped from the stable.
- 4. Of these supporting characters, who appears to be the most rational and level-headed?
 - A. Benvolio
 - B. Mercutio
 - C. Tybalt
 - D. the Nurse
 - E. Peter
- 5. The Nurse is primarily interested in, and seems to represent,
 - A. true love.
 - B. love of family.
 - C. courtly love.
 - D. sexual or vulgar love.
 - E. nothing; she does not believe in any kind of love.

- 6. The Nurse functions as
 - A. a figure to deliver soliloquies.
 - B. a symbol of romantic love.
 - C. Juliet's confidante.
 - D. the chorus.
 - E. Romeo's confidante.
- 7. The Friar agrees to marry Romeo and Juliet because
 - A. he is fond of Romeo.
 - B. he hates their parents.
 - C. he is afraid of Romeo and his temper.
 - D. he believes that children have rights, too.
 - E. he thinks the marriage might put an end to the feud.
- 8. Tybalt becomes furious with Romeo when
 - A. he hears of Romeo's marriage to Juliet.
 - B. he is told that Romeo climbed the wall into the Capulet garden.
 - C. he spots Romeo at the Capulet party.
 - D. Romeo calls him a villain.
 - E. Romeo kills Tybalt's friend.
- 9. Romeo believes
 - A. that dreams are presentiments of what is to come.
 - B. that fate has no influences in life.
 - C. that dreams are false and have no meaning.
 - D. that fortune is imagined.
 - E. that he has complete control over his own life.
- 10. When Mercutio says, "... 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church- door,..." he is referring to
 - A. the stab wound he receives.
 - B. the mouth on the Nurse.
 - C. the beautiful eyes of Juliet.
 - D. the burial crypt.
 - E. the Friar's cell.
- 11. Mercutio fights with Tybalt because
 - A. Tybalt insults him.
 - B. he is irritable due to the heat.
 - C. Benvolio will not stand up to him.
 - D. Romeo refuses to fight with Tybalt.
 - E. Tybalt is jealous of Romeo.

- 12. The Prince feels some responsibility for the loss of life at the end of the play because
 - A. Mercutio is a kinsman of his.
 - B. he encourages Paris to seek Juliet's hand in marriage.
 - C. he does not keep a closer watch on the Friar.
 - D. he banishes Romeo.
 - E. he does not act forcefully enough to end the feud.
- 13. Mercutio is stabbed
 - A. by Romeo by mistake.
 - B. in the back by Tybalt.
 - C. even though Romeo holds Tybalt.
 - D. by Benvolio in the heat of anger.
 - E. but dies when he is poisoned.
- 14. A dialogue between servants or other lower class people that follows a dramatic peak is called
 - A. a soliloguy.
 - B. an aside.
 - C. a convention.
 - D. a confidant.
 - E. comic relief.
- 15. Romeo's treatment of the wounded Paris shows
 - A. great medical skill.
 - B. youthful insensitivity.
 - C. compassion and maturity.
 - D. immaturity and anger.
 - E. a lack of understanding of the human body.
- 16. Romeo and Juliet rendezvous at
 - A. a masquerade party.
 - B. Juliet's balcony.
 - C. a cousin's wedding.
 - D. church.
 - E. a fight in the square.
- 17. The potion that puts Juliet in a 48-hour coma is given to her by
 - A. the Nurse.
 - B. Friar Laurence.
 - C. Romeo.
 - D. Paris.
 - E. her mother.

- 18. Juliet's life ends when she
 - A. takes poison.
 - B. stabs herself.
 - C. hangs herself.
 - D. is killed by mistake by Paris.
 - E. is killed by Romeo.
- 19. Friar Laurence is apprehended as he
 - A. tries to leave the city of Verona.
 - B. leaves the safety of his monastery.
 - C. leaves the Montague home.
 - D. tries to leave the cemetery.
 - E. hides in burial vault.
- 20. Balthasar is Romeo's
 - A. brother.
 - B. servant.
 - C. friend.
 - D. enemy.
 - E. cousin.

Identify the Speaker: (While you may not always remember who spoke the quotation, you should try to construct the context in which the quotation probably was spoken.)

- 21. "A plague on both your houses!" (Act III, Scene II)
 - A. Romeo
 - B. The Friar
 - C. Tybalt
 - D. The Prince
 - E. Mercutio
- 22. "Holy Saint Francis! What a change is here!

Is Rosaline that thou didst love so dear,

So soon forsaken? young men's love then lies

Not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes." (Act II, Scene IV)

- A. The Nurse
- B. The Friar
- C. Lord Capulet
- D. Mercutio
- E. Paris

23. "O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!

It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night

Like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear;" (Act I, Scene V)

- A. Juliet
- B. The Nurse
- C. Tybalt
- D. Romeo
- E. The Friar
- 24. "Good night, good night! parting is such sweet sorrow

That I shall say good night till it be morrow." (Act II, Scene II)

- A. Juliet
- B. Mercutio
- C. Benvolio
- D. Rosaline
- E. The Friar
- 25. "See, what a scourge is laid upon your hate,

That heaven finds means to kill your joys with love!

And I, for working at your discords too,

Have lost a brace of kinsmen: all are punish'd." (Act V, Scene III)

- A. Lord Capulet
- B. The Prince
- C. Romeo
- D. Lord Montague
- E. The Nurse

Essays (Choose any two)

- 1. Point out how the theme of civil disorder and its consequences is developed in the play. Be sure to mention the roles of Lord Capulet, Lord Montague, Romeo, Juliet, the Friar, and the Prince.
- 2. This play presents, or considers, three kinds of love: courtly love, vulgar love, and true love. In three separate paragraphs, discuss which characters represent these loves and how each type of love is presented in the play.
- 3. Using specific examples, discuss how Fate and Free will are major themes of this play.
- 4. Discuss how Romeo is or is not a tragic hero using specific examples from the play.

Test Answer Key

1.	В	6.	C	11. D	16. B	21.	E

Study Guide Teacher's Copy

Prologue

Vocabulary mutiny – strife, rivalry piteous – passionate

1. In the prologue, Shakespeare tells his audience what they are to expect in the play. Why do you suppose Shakespeare chooses to use this technique?

The Prologue is a technique that does remove some of the suspense, but it enables the reader and audience members to concentrate on the language and actions that take place.

2. Where is the play set?

This play is set in the city of Verona in Italy.

3. Put the following lines into your own words:

"From forth the fatal loins of these two foes A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;"

Born into these two feuding families are two children who are destined by Fate to become lovers and will commit suicide.

4. What does the term "star-cross'd lovers" suggest?

The ancients and the Elizabethans thought the stars influenced destiny or fate; "starcross'd lovers" suggests that the couple's love is written in the stars and ultimately, so is their death. It is their destiny to cross each other's path. The word "-cross'd" can also suggest deeper interpretations. For example: a cross or an intersection can imply bad luck. In addition, the cross can suggest that, although the two will meet and fall in love, they are destined to move in opposite directions. The belief that Fate and destiny control life is one major theme of this play.

5. Put these lines into your own words:

"Whose misadventur'd piteous overthrows Doth, with their death, bury their parents' strife."

In their misadventure, Romeo and Juliet die; and with their death, they bury the feud between their families.

6. Do you think this prologue is necessary or unnecessary?

Answers will vary.

Act I, Scene I – Verona. A public place.

Vocabulary **colliers** – people who dig or sell coals valiant – brave fray - brawl partisans – weapons pernicious – vindictive, wicked beseeming – becoming adversary - enemy, nemesis ere – before drave - drove **covert** – thicket **augmenting** – increasing importuned – inquired, questioned tyrannous – cruel, vicious siege – the act of being encircled ope – open **posterity** – future generations

1. What are Sampson and Gregory discussing in the first eleven lines of this scene?

Both men work for the Capulets and are discussing their hatred for the Montagues.

2. Sampson and Gregory are bragging, vulgar-mouthed men who engage in word games. What bawdy comment does Sampson make? What kind of 'love' is this an example of?

Sampson brags that he will take the virginity from the Montague women: "...therefore women, being the weaker vessels, are ever thrust to the wall: therefore I will push Montague's men from the wall and thrust his maids to the wall." This is a good example of vulgar love.

3. Who are the two Montagues Gregory and Sampson meet on their way? The Capulets draw their weapons, but what indicates that they are not as brave as they say they are?

Abraham and Balthasar are the two Montagues Sampson and Gregory meet. Sampson assures Gregory, "I will back thee." Gregory wants to run away. Then, both men decide the cowardly route is best and the two plan to instigate, allowing the Montagues to start the fight: "Let us take the law of our sides; let them begin."

4. Why do you suppose biting a thumb is offensive to the Capulets?

Biting a thumb is equivalent to modern gesture of sticking up a middle finger.

5. Who is Benvolio and what does he attempt to do?

Benvolio, a Montague, tries to break up the fighting servants by drawing his own sword.

6. How does Tybalt, a Capulet, misinterpret Benvolio's action? What does Tybalt say to him?

Tybalt questions Benvolio's attempts at peace, claims to "hate the word," and threatens to kill Benvolio.

7. Why is Tybalt considered hot-tempered?

Tybalt does not listen to Benvolio's explanation; rather, he starts fighting immediately.

8. What does Lady Capulet say about Lord Capulet's age and condition?

Instead of calling for a sword to fight with, he should, at his age, be calling for a crutch.

9. What do you suppose prompts Lady Montague to hold her husband back from the fight?

The Montagues want to keep their dignity; they are lords and lady's who should not engage in fighting, they are too good to fight and "...shalt not stir one foot to seek a foe."

10. The Prince appears, and he is angry. Why is he angry, and what is the promise and threat he makes?

This Capulet/Montague feud has disturbed the peace of the city once too often. The next Capulet or Montague who breaks the peace will pay with his life at the hands of the Prince's civil authority.

11. Lady Montague, glad that Romeo has missed the fight, asks Benvolio if he has seen Romeo. What is Benvolio's response?

Benvolio saw Romeo, sometime before sunrise. Romeo, wanting to be alone, fled into the forest upon first glimpse of Benvolio. Not really eager for company himself, Benvolio did not bother to go after Romeo.

- 12. Montague, when speaking of Romeo's recent depression, states:
 - "...But all so soon as the all-cheering sun Should in the farthest east begin to draw The shady curtains from Aurora's bed, Away from light steals home my heavy son, And private in his chamber pens himself, ..."

Interpret these lines. What is Montague saying about his son, Romeo? Who is Aurora? Why do you think Shakespeare includes her in these lines? What literary term is employed by the use of Aurora?

Montague explains how Romeo stays out until the cheerful sun rises in the east and opens Aurora's curtains to let the sun shine through; at this moment, Romeo flees from the light to the darkness of his private bedroom.

According to Roman mythology, Aurora is the goddess of the dawn. Including mythological references is Shakespeare's way of relating to his audience. The majority of Shakespeare's audience would have had a strong grasp on mythology. Shakespeare also includes political and other social events that his audience would have had knowledge about. By referencing Aurora, Shakespeare is utilizing the literary device of allusion.

13. Romeo enters and tells Benvolio the problem. What is his problem?

Romeo is in love with, Rosaline, who does not return his love.

14. Romeo's lines can be seen as presenting the paradox of love or simply as romantic nonsense. What indication is there that Romeo recognizes his sentiments could be viewed as romantic nonsense?

When Romeo finishes, he says to Benvolio, "Dost thou not laugh?"

15. What is Benvolio's response?

Benvolio is not laughing because, being young and romantic himself, he has the same problem and can sympathize with Romeo.

16. "Love is a smoke raised with the fume of sighs; Being purged, a fire sparkling in lover's eyes; Being vex'd, a sea nourish'd with lovers' tears:..."

What literary term is illustrated here?

This passage is an example of a metaphor; love is compared to the smoke from fire (passion) and has the ability to create a sea of tears.

17. Although Benvolio and Romeo are saddened by unrequited love, what joke are they able to make?

Benvolio asks who Romeo loves. Romeo answers a woman. Benvolio says that that is obvious.

18. What is the nature of Romeo's desire toward Rosaline? According to the tradition of courtly love, how is Romeo expected to respond to her rejection?

Romeo's overtures toward Rosaline are blatantly sexual (which is a vulgar kind of love). After being refused by her Romeo must, in the tradition of courtly love, pine away and die of unrequited love: "...She hath forsworn to love; and in that vow/Do I live dead, that live to tell it now."

19. What practical advice does Benvolio give Romeo?

Romeo should look for someone else and forget Rosaline, but Romeo responds that he will never be able to forget her.

20. "O, she is rich in beauty, only poor That, when she dies, with beauty dies her store." What are these two lines an example of?

These two lines are an example of a couplet.

Act I, Scene II – A street.

Vocabulary
merit – deserve
sirrah – sir
holp – helped
languish – persistent disease
heretics – people whose opinions differ from the official faith (Christianity)
scant – barely, hardly

1. After speaking briefly, Paris gets to the point of his visit to the Capulets. What does he ask of Lord Capulet?

Paris asks for Capulet's daughter's hand in marriage.

2. What is Capulet's response?

Capulet's daughter, Juliet is not yet fourteen, but in two years they can marry if she is willing.

3. Paris responds that girls younger than she have been married. What is Capulet's response to this?

Capulet's daughter is the only child he has left. He will not force her into a marriage she does not want.

4. What suggestion and invitation does Capulet make to Paris?

Capulet tells Paris to win her heart. Capulet invites Paris to attend a party that night to court her.

5. Compare Capulet's speech at the beginning of this scene to Sampson and Gregory's conversation at the beginning of Act I, Scene I. How are the speeches different? Why do you think Shakespeare chose to write the speeches so differently?

Capulet's speech is written in verse, whereas Sampson and Gregory's conversation is written in prose. Through many of Shakespeare's plays, members of the upper class tend to speak in verse and servants, or members of the lower class speak in prose.

6. In his conversation with Romeo, Benvolio says:

"Take thou some new infection to the eye, And the rank poison of the old will die."

Interpret these lines.

Benvolio advises Romeo to find other women (new infection) to fawn over (to the eye) and the heartache (poison) brought on by Rosaline (of the old) will fade away (will die).

7. What does the "poison" Benvolio mentions symbolize?

The poison, in this context, symbolizes Romeo's heartache, and is also a subtle foreshadow of the events to come.

8. Romeo, lamenting his unrequited love, is approached by an illiterate servingman. In reading his list he finds that Rosaline, his love, is going to attend the Capulet party. What suggestion does Benvolio make?

Benvolio suggests that they go to the party and Benvolio will show Romeo women that make Rosaline look ugly in comparison: "Compare her face with some that I shall show,/And I will make thee think thy swan a crow."

9. When Romeo responds that Rosaline is the most beautiful woman since time began, what is Benvolio's response?

Benvolio wants Romeo to look at Rosaline next to someone else, and he will see how little she has to offer.

Act I, Scene III – A room in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary dug – teat, nipple tetchy – touchy, oversensitive, irritable trow – say rood – crucifix perilous – dangerous, hazardous lineament – aspect, characteristic margent – margin endart – take flight and puncture like an arrow

1. Juliet will turn 14 on Lammas–eve. What is the Lammas–tide the women speak of?

Lammas Day was a holiday celebrated on August 1^{st} as a day when the first ripe grains were blessed by priests. Lammas—eve, Juliet's birthday, would then be on July 31^{st} .

2. The Nurse quotes the vulgar remark that her husband made to young Juliet and then, she likes it so much that she repeats it. What do the Nurse's indecent remarks in front of the family indicate about their relationship?

The Nurse seems to be a confidante of both mother and daughter and can say just about anything she pleases without getting into trouble.

Note to Teacher: "Thou wilt fall backward when thou comest of age..." suggests Juliet will lie on her back when she is older, thus a very sexual remark.

3. What does Lady Capulet tell Juliet? What is Juliet's response?

Lady Capulet explains that Paris wants to marry Juliet. Lady Capulet also tells her daughter that Paris is a handsome man and a fine catch, so Juliet should look him over tonight at the party and think about it. Juliet decides she will do as her mother suggests.

Act I, Scene IV - A street.

Vocabulary **prolixity** – overly lengthy Tartar – a warrior lath – wood **burthen** – burden visage – face wantons – tomboys mire – mud **agate-stone** – a stone with small figures cut into it alderman – city ruler traces - harnesses **gossamer** – sheer, light filmy substance **benefice** – secular lifestyle ambuscadoes - traps **anon** – promptly, soon vile – wicked, heinous steerage – direction

1. Why does Romeo say he is unable to dance?

Romeo claims his soul is made of lead (from sadness) which weighs him down.

2. How do the Montagues expect to be able to enter a Capulet house?

The party is a masked ball, so they will not be easily recognized.

3. Romeo is apprehensive about going to the masquerade because of the dream he had the night before. Romeo seems to believe (as did many in Shakespeare's day) that dreams have something to do with life. Perhaps Romeo believes dreams act as omens. What is Mercutio's opinion of dreams?

Mercutio believes dreams signify nothing and reflect a great deal of superstitious nonsense: "...I talk of dreams;/Which are the children of an idle brain,/Begot of nothing but vain fantasy,..."

4. What does Mercutio's speech reveal about his character?

Mercutio's speech shows how he has the tendency to babble and ramble on. He seems very showy and prone to over exaggerate.

5. Choose 4 - 8 lines of Mercutio's dream and write a brief summary.

Answers may vary.

Example:

"Her waggon-spokes made of long spinners' legs;

The cover, of the wings of grasshoppers;

Her traces, of the smallest spider's web;

Her collars, of the moonshine's watery beams;

Her whip, of cricket's bone; the lash, of film;

Her waggoner, a small grey-coated gnat,

Not half so big as a round little worm

Prick'd from the lazy finger of a maid:..."

The Queen Mab's spokes on her wagon are made from spider's legs;

The cover of her wagon is made from grasshopper wings;

Her harness strap is made from the smallest spider's web;

Parts of the harnesses are made from the moon's watery beams;

Her whip is made from a cricket's bone; the whip's chord, from a filmy cobweb;

Her driver is a small gnat wearing a gray coat,

Not even 1/2 as big as a worm

Taken from the finger of a lazy maid...

6. How does Benvolio end the conversation?

Benvolio casually lets Romeo and Mercutio know that they have yammered on for too long: "This wind you talk of blows us from ourselves;/Supper is done, and we shall come too late."

7. What is Romeo's misgiving, and what does the line "some consequence, yet hanging in the stars" have to do with his feeling of dread? Discuss the theme this quote illustrates.

Romeo believes that going to this party will initiate a chain of events (destiny "hanging in the stars") that may end in his untimely death. The theme of Fate having complete control is illustrated by Romeo's comment. All his faith sits among the stars.

Act I, Scene V – A hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary
nuptial – wedding ceremony
ward – dependent
rapier – a small sword
solemnity – festivities
disparagement – affliction, injury, harm
scathe – hurt, injure
princox – a rude, impolite boy
perforce – is a requirement; is essential
choler – fury, anger
gall – detest, disgust
prodigious – threatening, ominous

1. Lord Capulet and a relative stand, unmasked, on one side of the room. Romeo, masked, standing on the other side, asks a servingman who Juliet is. How does Romeo describe the girl, and what does he conclude?

Using elegant comparisons, Romeo describes Juliet as being the most beautiful woman he has ever seen and concludes, "Did my heart love till now? forswear it, sight!/For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night."

2. What is Tybalt's reaction when he hears Romeo's voice?

Tybalt is able to recognize Romeo's voice, as an enemy, and vows to kill the Montague behind the mask.

3. What does Lord Capulet say to Tybalt in reference to Romeo's attendance at the party?

Lord Capulet informs Tybalt of Romeo's reputation, saying that the people of Verona brag about how dignified and honorable Romeo has become. Lord Capulet vows to not show Romeo any disrespect. Capulet continues advising Tybalt to ignore Romeo and have a good time at the party: "...Show a fair presence and put off these frowns..."

4. Tybalt obeys his uncle, but what does he foresee?

Tybalt withdraws, but proclaims how livid Romeo and Juliet's meeting makes him. Tybalt predicts that even though the meeting seems sweet, Romeo and Juliet's relationship will eventually revert to hatred. Tybalt's prediction supports the theme of the extreme power love has over life. Love's power is so overwhelming it can be blinding – just as hate has the strength to blind.

5. Romeo, approaching Juliet, begins a conversation, and ends up kissing her twice before the Nurse comes to tell Juliet that her mother requests her. Romeo and his friends leave. How does the audience know that Juliet feels as strongly about Romeo as he does for her?

Juliet welcomes Romeo's kisses, twice. Then, as Romeo is leaving, Juliet sends her Nurse to find out who he is. The audience knows how deeply Juliet feels because she states to her Nurse, "If he be married,/My grave is like to be my wedding bed." Romeo and Juliet both find out the other belongs to their enemy's family. Both are devastated.

Act II - Prologue.

1. The chorus comments on the action of the play. In your own words, discuss the meaning of the first four lines.

Romeo's desire for Rosaline has died, A new love he has inherited (acquired); Romeo's love is so strong Juliet's love is equal to Romeo's.

2. What problem is alluded to concerning the lovers?

Being enemies, the couple is destined to find severe obstacles in their relationship.

3. What is the suggested answer to their problem?

Romeo and Juliet have such as strong, passionate connection, they will go to any lengths to be together.

4. What is the rhyme scheme of the prologue for Act II? What type of poem is the prologue?

[A] [B] [A] [B] is the rhyme scheme. This prologue is a sonnet, and it ends (as sonnets typically do) with a couplet.

5. Identify the half rhyme within the prologue.

This prologue's half rhyme is seen with the words, "again" and "complain"

Act II, Scene I - A lane by the wall of Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary
purblind – physically blind
Venus – Roman goddess of love and beauty
demesnes – domain, territory
invocation – the act of calling a superior for help

1. Romeo slips away from his friends; the practical, vulgar Mercutio makes some indecent comments about Rosaline. What misapprehension are Mercutio and Benvolio under? What truth does the audience know?

Mercutio and Benvolio believe Romeo is still in love with Rosaline and is pining away for her. The audience knows, however, that Romeo is now in love with Juliet and Juliet returns his love.

Act II, Scene II - Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary vestal – celibate, virtuous livery – appearance enmity – hatred perjuries – falsehoods Jove – chief Roman god, Jupiter perverse – passionless, indifferent, unsympathetic ware – conscious of, aware idolatry – worship falconer – a hawk trainer gyves – chains, shackles

1. As the scene opens, Romeo enters and says:

"He jests at scars that never felt a wound."

What is Romeo referring to? What does this statement suggest?

In the previous scene, Mercutio and Benvolio make fun of Romeo's pain. Romeo is hurt by Rosaline's rejection; Mercutio and Benvolio have never been in love, and, therefore, have never been rejected or hurt by love ("never felt a wound"). This statement can be universal as well. Those who have never felt love have no idea what it feels like to be without love, or to be rejected by love. Most importantly, this statement foreshadows the events that will take place in the last scene. The scars and wounds that are created in the last scene, have been created by the powers of love.

2. Romeo's first speech is among the most famous of Shakespeare's soliloquies. What is the main idea in Romeo's speech? Put the last seven lines of this speech into your own words.

Romeo praises Juliet's beauty generously. The last seven lines:

Juliet's beauty glows so bright, she makes the stars look dull;
Like daylight with a lamp, Juliet's eyes shine bright;
If her eyes were looking down from heaven, they would light the earth so brightly
That birds will believe it to be daylight, singing as if it was morning.
Juliet puts her cheek in her hand!
I wish I were that glove on her hand,
So I may have the pleasure of touching her cheek!

3. Does Juliet know that Romeo is beneath her window?

No, at first, Juliet does not know Romeo is beneath the window.

4. One of the most famous lines is when Juliet explains: "O Romeo, Romeo! Wherfore art thou Romeo?" What do these lines mean?

Juliet, knowing that Romeo is a Montague, questions why her love, her Romeo, has to be an enemy to her family. Note that "wherefore" actually means "why".

5. Juliet makes a secret vow to Romeo; what is this vow? What is the significance of this quote in relation to a major theme of the play?

"Deny thy father and refuse thy name; Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love, And I'll no longer be a Capulet."

Juliet vows to abandon her family name in order to be with Romeo. This quote shows how the love Romeo and Juliet share is driving them to defy once important elements of their social life (family and friends). A major theme of this play is that love is so powerful it has the ability to force couples into doing things they would not ordinarily do.

6. Romeo, after listening to Juliet profess her love, decides to make his presence known. How does Romeo identify himself? Find the quote, then put the passage into modern words.

"I take thee at thy word: Call me but love, and I'll be new baptized; Henceforth I never will be Romeo.

By a name
I know not how to tell thee who I am:
My name, dear saint, is hateful to myself,
Because it is an enemy to thee;
Had I it written, I would tear the word."

When Romeo first makes his presence known, he states that, if only Juliet will love him, he will be reborn as her love only – never being called Romeo again. He continues by saying that he is having a difficult time revealing himself, considering how, technically, he is an enemy of Juliet's. "...tear the word" suggests that Romeo will turn his back on his own family name to have Juliet.

7. As Juliet knows, Romeo is risking death by being there. When she mentions this fact to Romeo, what is his response?

Romeo, romantically responds, telling Juliet that he is so in love with her, he is able to climb walls with ease to see her. He also says that no "...stony limits" can "...hold love out..." and none of her kinsman can hurt him.

8. Romeo, still trying to convince Juliet of his safety, says: "I have night's cloak to hide me from their eyes..." What may "night" symbolize?

Night may be a symbol of safety, a way the two lovers can be together without too much danger. Night is secretive, and silent, a way to stay hidden.

9. Juliet is embarrassed that Romeo has overheard how she feels about him, but she decides to ignore convention. Although deeply in love herself, how does she show herself to be shrewd and knowledgeable about men? What concern does Juliet reveal in her private thoughts?

Juliet asks Romeo if he loves her, realizing that Romeo might easily lie to her in order to take advantage of her. Juliet is concerned that Romeo may think she can be easily attained because she is not remaining aloof.

10. When Romeo swears by the moon, what does Juliet tell him?

Juliet tells Romeo that the moon changes, and his love for her should not change as frequently as the moon. She wants him to speak the truth from his heart.

11. What does Juliet mean when she tells Romeo, "...swear by the gracious self,/Which is the god of my idolatry,..."

Juliet is telling Romeo that her love for him is so strong she reveres him as a god.

12. Juliet professes how she idolizes Romeo. What previous scene does this remind you of?

In Act I, Scene V, Romeo and Juliet meet at the masquerade. Romeo approaches Juliet, and in this conversation, he uses a lot of religious imagery to express his feelings:

"If I profane with my unworthiest hand
This holy shrine, the gentle fine is this,
My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.
...O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do;
They pray, grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.
...Then move not, while my prayer's effect I take.
Thus from my lips by thine my sin is purged."

13. What second thoughts does Juliet have? Quote the passage that reveals these thoughts.

Juliet is apprehensive because her relationship with Romeo is progressing very quickly.

"I have no joy of this contract to-night: It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden, Too like the lightening, which doth cease to be Ere one can say 'It lightens.' Sweet, good night! This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath, May prove a beauteous flower when next we meet."

14. After an exchange of vows, the Nurse calls and Juliet must leave. What is Romeo's feeling as he stands there?

Romeo fears this romantic night has been a dream, because everything has been so wonderful he is "...afeard,/Being in night, all this is but a dream,/Too flattering-sweet to be substantial."

15. Juliet reappears. What does she tell Romeo?

Returning to the balcony, Juliet asks Romeo, if his "...love be honourable..." to propose and organize their marriage. If he chooses to marry her, all her fortunes will become his and she will follow him "...throughout the world."

16. When Juliet reappears, for the second time, she claims:

"Bondage is hoarse, and may not speak aloud; Else would I tear the cave where Echo lies, And make her airy tongue more hoarse than mine, With repetition of my Romeo's name."

Why is Juliet's allusion to Echo significant?

In Greek mythology, Echo is a nymph who is madly in love with Narcissus. Echo pines over this love until she fades away completely, leaving only her voice.

17. It is apparent that neither Romeo nor Juliet wants the night to end. What is Juliet's famous parting line?

"Good night, good night! parting is such sweet sorrow That I shall say good night till it be morrow."

18. What decision does Romeo make?

Romeo decides to go to his "ghostly father", the Friar, for help.

Act II, Scene III - Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary
chequering – speckling, spotting
osier – tree of the willow family
shrift – confession
brine – tears
chid'st – scolds, reprimands
doting – excessively loving

1. At the beginning of the scene, Friar Laurence, makes a very profound speech. Choose one full sentence in his speech to interpret. Can any of what the Friar says be applied to the world now?

Answers may vary. Example:

"The earth that's nature's mother is her tomb; What is her burying grave, that is her womb: And from her womb children of divers kind We sucking on her natural bosom find, Many for many virtues excellent, None but for some, and yet all different."

Nature is the mother of all beings. The earth is Mother Nature's natural tomb, a graveyard for all those who pass. Simultaneously, the earth is Mother Nature's womb; she gives birth to all those who inhabit the earth. Mother Nature's world is diverse, and all those born on her earth are nurtured by her nature. People will find that her world is full of many wonderful attributes and qualities. These attributes allow the population, Mother Nature's children, freedom to choose the way they live their lives – which is as diverse and different as the population itself.

This passage can be applied to modern times because of the diverse nature of the world, as well as the wide range of opportunities that are available to the population. In addition, Nature, although much has become commercialized, is still appreciated and loved by many.

2. The Friar assumes that Romeo is out so early because he has been up all night with Rosaline. When the Friar is informed that it is not Rosaline, but a Capulet, Romeo wishes to marry, what is the Friar's reaction?

The Friar is shocked that Romeo has changed his affections so quickly. The Friar concludes that Romeo's love lies only in physical attraction: "...young men's love then lies/Not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes."

3. How is the Friar making fun of Romeo?

The Friar cannot believe that after all the lamenting he has heard from Romeo about Rosaline, that Romeo has now completely forgotten her.

4. Why does the Friar agree to help Romeo and Juliet get married?

The Friar hopes that the marriage of Romeo and Juliet may end the hatred between their families.

Act II, Scene IV – A street.

Vocabulary **cleft** – split fantasticoes – gallants, cavaliers, suitors roe – fish eggs **fishified** – changed to a fish dowdy – trollop, harlot, prostitute hams – knees ell – a measurement of forty-five inches mar – hurt **troth** – loyalty, devotion **bawd** – whore, prostitute **lenten** – pie made during Lent vexed – disturbed, troubled shrived – forgiven, pardoned **convov** – carriage, transportation prating - gossiping, babbling lieve – rather, "just as soon" apace – swiftly, rapidly

1. Once again, Mercutio yammers on and on at the beginning of this scene. Both Mercutio and Benvolio believe that Romeo is still pining over Rosaline. Once Romeo enters, Mercutio, in one passage, makes several allusions. List the allusions then, do a little research to explain what the allusions mean and how they fit in the context of this scene.

Petrarch – an Italian poet who is famous because of his poems to Laura
Laura – Laura and Petrarch met in Avignon
Dido – Queen of Carthage
Cleopatra – Queen of Egypt
Helen – daughter of Zeus, who is very beautiful, and desired by many men
Hero – in Greek mythology, she is Aphrodite's priestess, and a mistress to Leander
Thisbe – Pyramus' mistress despite her mother's disapproval

Mercutio's sarcasm here is directed at Romeo as a lover. Mercutio is saying that Romeo's love for Rosaline, as well as Rosaline's beauty, far surpasses the beauty of these women. Mercutio calls Helen and Hero "wretches" because their beauty is no match for Rosaline's, in Romeo's loving eyes.

2. "Without his roe, like a dried herring: O flesh, flesh, how are thou fishified!" What is the pun Mercutio is making here? What type of pun is this?

Romeo, without the "R-o" does not leave much – Romeo has not been himself since he has given all his love to Rosaline. "Roe" are fish eggs, which makes the pun flow easily with the rest of the thought. This type of pun can be referred to as a double entendre.

3. As Romeo enters, Mercutio and Benvolio are discussing Romeo's longing for Rosaline and Tybalt's challenge to Romeo. What change in Romeo's behavior does Mercutio comment on?

Mercutio mentions how great it is to see the old Romeo, the sociable, jesting Romeo, not the miserable Romeo pining for Rosaline that has been seen lately.

4. The Nurse and Peter arrive looking for Romeo. How does Romeo respond?

Romeo comments that he will grow old waiting to find out what the Nurse wants.

5. What do you think the Nurse's malapropism, using "confidence" instead of "conference", suggests about her character, or about the situation?

Answers may vary. Example: The use of malapropisms can sometimes suggest ignorance, but in this situation, the slip may be just that — a slip. Romeo and Juliet are courting in complete secret. As Juliet's confidante, the Nurse has come, in a sense, to confide in Romeo concerning Juliet.

6. After Benvolio and Mercutio leave, the Nurse asks, "...what saucy merchant was this, that was so full of his ropery?" What is Romeo's answer?

As the audience has already seen, Mercutio loves to hear himself talk and will say more in a minute than he will listen to in a month.

7. The Nurse, expresses certain doubts about Romeo. What are these doubts and how does Romeo respond?

The Nurse questions Romeo's intentions because Juliet is so young and inexperienced. The Nurse fears Romeo is leading Juliet "...into a fool's paradise..." Romeo immediately protests these accusations, which proves to the Nurse that Romeo is sincere and his feelings for Juliet are genuine.

8. What is the message that Romeo gives to the Nurse for Juliet?

Romeo wants Juliet to find a way to come for confession at Friar Laurence's cell that afternoon, so the two can be married.

9. Romeo tells the Nurse that his "man" will deliver something beyond the abbey-wall. What is Romeo's "man" bringing?

The "man" is bringing a rope ladder that is to hang from Juliet's balcony.

Act II, Scene V – Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary

lame – incapacitated, physically handicapped heralds – couriers, messengers feign – fabricate, act fie – a curse beshrew – a mild curse hie – leave

 ${\bf wanton}-{\bf magnificent},\ {\bf extravagant}$

1. Juliet waits anxiously for the Nurse to return. How is Juliet able to justify her Nurse's tardiness?

Juliet knows how elders tend to move slower than youngsters.

2. How does the Nurse tease Juliet?

The Nurse, claiming to have had a long journey, says she is unable to speak because she needs to catch her breath. Meanwhile, Juliet waits expectantly. Then, instead of telling Juliet Romeo's response, the Nurse starts complaining of her aches and pains asking about Juliet's mother, delaying the news Juliet cannot wait to hear.

3. Finally, what does the Nurse tell Juliet?

The Nurse gives Romeo's instructions to Juliet: Juliet is to go to confession at Friar Laurence's cell, where the two will marry.

4. The Nurse is off to fetch the rope ladder. What is this rope ladder going to be used for?

Juliet is to hang the rope ladder from her balcony the night of the marriage, so Romeo can climb the ladder into Juliet's room. The Nurse, true to character, conveys the message with lusty humor ("You shall bear the burden soon at night").

Act II, Scene VI – Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary

flint – stone with which to make fire **wanton** – playful, spirited, exuberant **blazon** – compliment, glorify

1. When speaking with Friar Laurence, while waiting for Juliet, Romeo says: "Do thou close our hands with holy words,/Then love-devouring death do what he dare,/It is enough I may but call her mine." After interpreting Romeo's words, what do you think this passage suggests?

Essentially, Romeo says that death can do whatever it pleases, once he is married to Juliet. Answers may vary. Example: These lines are foreshadowing the future duel suicides of the lovers.

2. In expressing his reservations about the marriage, find a quote from Friar Laurence, that could foreshadow future events.

Friar Laurence says, "These violent delights" (Romeo and Juliet's passion for each other) may end in a different kind of passion. A more moderate love is a long love, for a love that begins quickly can end quickly.

3. What follows after Romeo, Juliet, and Friar Laurence exit from the stage?

Romeo and Juliet are married by the Friar.

Act III, Scene I – A public place.

Vocabulary addle – jumbled doublet – piece of men's clothing zounds – derived from an oath "God's wounds" (swounds) haunt – popular place appertaining – relevant, pertinent dry-beat – to beat, lash, wallop pilcher – case or cover for a sword passado – fencing term effeminate – powerless, weak

1. How does Benvolio show himself to be a reasoning man?

Benvolio says in hot weather, like the kind they are experiencing, anger is easily triggered, resulting in a brawl that the two will be unable to avoid.

2. What is Mercutio's response? Is he correct?

Mercutio says that Benvolio is the more hot-tempered one and should not be giving lessons on controlling tempers when Benvolio is unable to control his own. Mercutio is probably incorrect. Benvolio appears to be the more rational of the two.

3. How does Mercutio show himself to be the more reckless of the two?

Mercutio loses his temper quickly when Tybalt asks if Mercutio and Romeo "consort."

4. Romeo enters. Tybalt has a few heated words for Romeo. Even after hearing the insults, Romeo says he has to love Tybalt. Why does Romeo says this?

Tybalt is Juliet's cousin and by marrying Juliet, Romeo has an unconditional love for all Capulets.

5. How does Romeo hint to his marriage to Juliet?

Romeo's love for Tybalt is more than can be imagined. Then, Romeo also says, that the name, Capulet, is a name he cherishes as if it were his own.

6. How does Mercutio react to Romeo's refusal to fight with Tybalt? Why is this element of the scene significant?

Mercutio thinks that Romeo has acted dishonorably. Mercutio then draws his own sword, challenging Tybalt. It is love that forces Romeo to be disloyal to his family and friends by choosing to not fight Tybalt. Because of Romeo's decision, Mercutio is then forced to act on the hate he feels for the Capulets as well as the loyalty he has for the Montagues – that which Romeo seems to have lost.

7. In what way is Romeo responsible for Mercutio's being stabbed?

Tybalt is in search of Romeo to fight; instead, because Romeo has married Juliet, he has to back down from Tybalt's challenge. Angry Mercutio steps up. Then, Romeo tries to break up the fight between Tybalt and Mercutio; in so doing, Tybalt finds an opportunity to stab Mercutio.

8. In what way is Mercutio's comment about his wound ironic?

Mercutio says his wound is "...not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church-door," but it is enough to kill him. Mercutio also claims, "...ask for me to-morrow, and you shall find me a grave man", meaning both "sad and solemn" and "buried." Mercutio also says, he is "peppered...for this world." "Peppered" can have several meanings referring to "being dealt a death blow", to be "finished", or to be "done in this world." Mercutio mentions that the Capulets and Montagues "...have made worms' meat of me."

9. Romeo says, "My very friend hath got this mortal hurt/In my behalf; my reputation stain'd/With Tybalt's slander,—..." Romeo uses "stain'd", which takes on a duel meaning. What are the different meanings?

Romeo's reputation has been ruined because of the murder (stained) – the murder has literally stained Romeo with blood.

10. What is Romeo's reaction to Mercutio's death?

Romeo is determined to avenge Mercutio's death by killing Tybalt.

11. What is Romeo willing to sacrifice for Mercutio?

Romeo is willing to get himself killed, as long as he attempts to avenge Mercutio's death: "Either thou, or I, or both, must go with him."

12. Once killing Tybalt, Romeo says, "O, I am fortune's fool!" What does he mean by this? What major theme does this statement support?

"Fortune" refers to fate. Romeo firmly believes his future has been written for him. By killing Tybalt, Romeo proves the theme that fortune/fate always prevails.

13. Throughout this play, loyalty proves to be a determining factor for characters who have a decision to make. What is your opinion of Benvolio after he tells the Prince that Romeo is responsible for Tybalt's death?

Answers will vary. Example: Benvolio may be viewed as disloyal to his friend, Romeo. Benvolio may be view as loyal to the Prince.

14. What does Lady Capulet request of the Prince?

Lady Capulet wants Romeo to be slain for his crime of killing her nephew, Tybalt.

15. What slant does Benvolio put on his account of the fight?

Benvolio tells of how Tybalt, unruly and "deaf to peace," was blind with rage, despite Romeo's attempts to stop the brawl.

16. What is Lady Capulet's comment on Benvolio's story?

Lady Capulet says that Benvolio is speaking falsely because he is a Montague.

17. What is the Prince's decision?

The Prince decides to banish Romeo from the city. If Romeo is seen within city limits, he is to be killed.

Act III, Scene II - Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary

Phoebus – Roman god of the sun (Apollo)

Phaethon – son of Apollo

amorous - passionate, loving

garish – elaborate, pretentious

cockatrice – a mythological creature said to have the ability to kill with a single look

weal – security, success, fortune

corse – corpse

bedaub'd - covered, smeared

bower – surround, encompass

monarch – prince, king, ruler

beguiled – fooled, seduced

- 1. The night is a very significant time for Romeo and Juliet. In her soliloquy, she mentions "night" at least 12 times. List 10 ways Juliet uses "night".
 - 1. "cloudy night"
 - 2. "close curtain"
 - 3. "love-performing night"
 - 4. love is blind and "best agrees with night"
 - 5. "civil night"
 - 6. "sober-suited matron, all in black"
 - 7. "day in night"
 - 8. "wings of night"
 - 9. "gentle night"
 - 10. "loving, black-brow'd night"
 - 11. When Romeo dies, if he is cut into tiny stars, "the world will be in love with night,/And pay no worship to the garish sun."
 - 12. the night is exciting, like the eve before a holiday or festival
- 2. As Juliet waits for night and Romeo's visit, the Nurse arrives with news. What is the news, and how is it presented?

The Nurse, flustered and upset by the news, has difficulty telling Juliet that Romeo has murdered Tybalt and how Juliet's lover is banished. Because the news is so difficult for the Nurse to deliver, Juliet is under the impression, at first, that Romeo is dead.

3. Juliet's first reaction is to call Romeo names. What does she call her beloved Romeo? The names she calls Romeo are quite obscure; what do you think they suggest? What is odd about these insults?

Answers may vary. Example: "serpent heart" (he has the heart of a devil); "dragon"; "Beautiful tyrant!"; "fiend angelical!"; "Dove-feather'd raven!"; "wolvish-ravening lamb!"; "damned saint"; "honourable villain!"

Answers may vary. Example: Juliet is confused. She has lost her cousin, Tybalt, who she loves unconditionally, but it is her true love who is the murderer. These names she calls Romeo are also confused because she is intermixing complements with insults. A "wolvish-ravening lamb" suggests that he has "wolvish" tendencies(eg. barbaric, uncivilized, etc.), but "lamb" suggests, the lamb of God; this comment goes back to earlier scenes when Juliet professed how much she idolizes Romeo, and how highly she thinks of him.

4. After the name calling, what is Juliet's second reaction? What does this second reaction prove?

Juliet loves Romeo and realizes that Tybalt would have killed Romeo if Romeo had not killed him first. With Juliet's realization it proves her loyalty and trust to Romeo.

5. Juliet, figuratively states: "Some word there was, worser than Tybalt's death,/That murder'd me..." What is it that "murder'd" Juliet? Why does she choose to express herself in this way?

The statement, "Tybalt is dead, and Romeo banished" murdered Juliet. Her choice of using the word "murdered" shows how devastated she is by learning both facts. Tybalt, her cousin, dead and killed by Romeo, her only love, hurts her so much it is enough to kill her. (This word choice is another way of foreshadowing the suicides later in the play, as well.)

6. Why does the Nurse, who is obviously fond of Tybalt, volunteer to go and get Romeo?

Juliet has said that, with Romeo banished, she is going to go to her room to kill herself. The Nurse knows Romeo is the only one who can comfort Juliet during this time. Being the wonderful confidante she is, the Nurse offers to find Romeo.

7. Where is Romeo hiding, what seems to be Juliet's plan, and what does she give to the Nurse?

Romeo is hiding in Friar Laurence's cell, and Juliet wants to see him that night before he makes his final exit from the city. Juliet gives the Nurse a ring to deliver to Romeo. This ring signifies to Romeo that the message is from Juliet and that she does not blame him for Tybalt's death.

Act III, Scene III - Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary
affliction – agony, depression, grief
sack – rob, ransack, raid
usurer – money-lender
digressing – departing, diverging, drifting

1. How does Romeo react to the news that he has been banished?

Romeo complains a great deal, because life outside of Verona, without Juliet, seems to be no life at all.

2. What is Friar Laurence's reaction to Romeo's complaining?

Friar Laurence is disappointed with Romeo's reaction because, by law, Romeo should be put to death for the crime committed. Instead, the Prince has spared Romeo's life by enforcing the banishment. Romeo should be grateful.

3. Romeo is obviously devastated to be banished from his Juliet, but he is being very stubborn, not even attempting to listen to the Friar's advice and positive words. Romeo tells the Friar to "...talk no more." What does the Friar conclude at this point?

The Friar concludes, "O, then I see that madmen have no ears."

4. Why is the Friar unable, according to Romeo, to truly understand Romeo's feelings about Juliet and being banished?

Romeo says, in effect, that the Friar has never felt passion and therefore cannot understand Romeo's passion for Juliet and how his separation from her is devastating.

5. The Nurse arrives and informs the Friar and Romeo that Juliet, too, is crying just as Romeo is. Hearing of Juliet's unhappiness and the hatred he supposes she feels toward him, he draws his knife to kill himself. What does the Friar accuse him of?

The Friar cannot believe how Romeo is acting. Romeo is not acting like a man, instead he is acting like a woman and a beast: "Thy tears are womanish; thy wild acts denote/The unreasonable fury of a beast:/Unseemly woman in a seeming man!/Or ill-beseeming beast in seeming both!"

6. For what things does the Friar say Romeo should be happy about?

Juliet is alive; Tybalt did not kill Romeo; although death is ordinarily the penalty for fighting, the Prince has spared Romeo's life by ordering banishment.

7. What does the Friar then tell him to do? What instructions does the Friar give Romeo?

Romeo should stop complaining about fate; instead, he should go see Juliet, and say his farewells. Romeo is instructed to make his way to Mantua, where he will stay until the marriage can be made public, the families are reconciled, and the Prince agrees to pardon Romeo of the banishment.

Act III, Scene IV – A room in Capulet's house. Vocabulary kinsman – relative

1. In the conversation between Lord Capulet, his wife, and Paris, what do they think is Juliet's present cause of grief?

Juliet's parents and Paris believe Juliet is locking herself in her room because of the grief she feels over Tybalt's death.

2. What is learned about Paris' character?

Paris is waiting patiently to court Juliet, and after learning about Juliet's current mourning, Paris states: "These times of woe afford no time to woo." This statement shows Paris is considerate and sympathetic when it comes to Juliet. It seems that Paris will be loyal to Juliet and his future in-laws.

3. What decision does Lord Capulet make, and why do you suppose he makes this decision?

Lord Capulet decides that Juliet and Paris are to marry on Thursday. The suggestion seems to be that a marriage may help Juliet out of her grief.

4. What is your opinion of Juliet's parents and of Paris?

Answers will vary.

Act III, Scene V - Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary
jocund – joyful; invigorating
asunder – split, separate, apart
runagate – wanderer, nomad
dram – destructive, harmful potion
carrion – contaminated person; diseased flesh
prudence – sense, shrewdness
puling – lamenting, complaining
stratagems – horrifying, shocking acts
stealth – secret, concealed action
dishclout – dishcloth
twain – two

1. Summarize the conversation between Romeo and Juliet at the opening of this scene.

Juliet tries to convince Romeo that it is not morning by telling him it is not the lark he hears, but the nightingale. Romeo knows that if he stays past dawn he is risking his life. Juliet again tries to convince Romeo that the light he sees outside is a meteor, not the sun. Romeo finally gives in because he would rather stay with his love than leave.

2. The mother enters and, seeing Juliet weeping at Romeo's departure, believes the weeping is for Tybalt. The mother then vents her own anger at Romeo and discloses her plan to have him found and poisoned. Why does Juliet appear to speak ill of Romeo?

Juliet's speech can be read so that it has two meanings. The second meaning, professing her love for Romeo, is known by the audience, but not the mother.

3. What news does Juliet's mother bring? What is Juliet's response to her mother?

Juliet is to marry Paris on Thursday. Juliet states she would rather marry the villain, Romeo, than Paris.

4. Why does Lord Capulet get so angry when he hears of Juliet's desire not to marry?

Lord Capulet feels that Juliet is "unworthy" because she is so ungrateful of the marriage. He also seems angry that Juliet questions his authority.

5. Why do you think Lord Capulet is so controlling of his family?

During Shakespeare's day, women had little say, and depended on the men of their family to provide for them financially and emotionally. Therefore, women were forced to obey the men in their family. Men, in turn, could take this power for granted, becoming overbearing.

6. What does Lord Capulet threaten if Juliet chooses not to marry Paris?

If Juliet refuses to marry Paris, Lord Capulet tells her, "...never after look me in the face..." This statement also foreshadows the deaths at the end of the play.

7. When the Nurse tries to speak up for Juliet, what is she told?

Capulet says that the Nurse should hold her tongue.

8. In the last words of Lord Capulet's speech, how does he try to persuade Juliet to go through with the marriage to Paris?

Lord Capulet argues that he owns Juliet and he has decided to give her to Paris; Capulet is not ordering her to be hanged and she will not starve, unless, of course, she chooses to disobey his orders.

9. If forced to marry, what does Juliet threaten? What is her mother's response?

Juliet threatens to kill herself. Juliet is so obstinate about not marrying Paris that her mother is finished discussing it with her.

10. What is the Nurse's advice, and how can she give that advice knowing how Juliet feels?

The Nurse tells Juliet to forget Romeo and go ahead with the marriage to Paris. To the Nurse, a man is a man; and in all respects, Paris is as good a man as Romeo, if not a better man. The Nurse is very practical.

11. In what way does the Nurse's opinion contrast with Juliet's? What kind of character does this make the Nurse?

The Nurse is in favor of courtly love, a love that is polite and just in the eyes of the public. Juliet, however, is in favor of true love – a love that needs no explanation. Because of this contrast, the Nurse can be considered a foil character to Juliet.

12. When Juliet hears this opinion, what is her decision regarding the Nurse?

Juliet is not going to confide in the Nurse any longer.

13. Juliet tells the Nurse she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sins. Why is she really going there?

Juliet wants to see if he can help her find a way out of the marriage to Paris. If he cannot, she plans to kill herself before the wedding.

Act IV, Scene I – Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary
inundation – deluge, surge
pensive – melancholy
prorogue – postpone, suspend
arbitrating – settling, resolving
charnel-house – designated area for discarding bones of the dead
reeky – wretched, foul, vile
shanks – calves (parts of the human body)
surcease – to end, stop, halt

1. What does Juliet tell the Friar?

Juliet will do anything rather than marry Paris. If necessary, she will even consider killing herself before she is disloyal to Romeo.

2. List three things Juliet is willing to do "...without fear or doubt...rather than marry Paris"?

Answers may vary. Examples:

- 1. leap from a tower
- 2. "lurk/Where serpents are..."
- 3. be chained with bears
- 4. be shut "in a charnel-house" (a place where bones from the deceased are kept)
- 5. be covered with human bones
- 6. hide in a grave with a dead man

3. What plan does the Friar set out?

The Friar advises Juliet to go home and agree to marry Paris. Wednesday night she is to sleep alone and take the potion the Friar will provide for her. This potion will make her appear to be dead: "...no pulse/Shall keep his native progress, but surcrease:/No warmth, no breath, shall testify thou livest;..."

Then she will be carried to the burial crypt. There, Romeo and the Friar will await for her to awaken. Then, she and Romeo can go to Mantua to be together.

Act IV, Scene II - Hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary forsooth – in fact, correct gadding – lazily wandering, strolling behests – orders, rulings prostrate – lying flat tush – "keep quiet"

1. Why is Lord Capulet happy?

Juliet has agreed to marry Paris, and she apologizes to her father for her willfulness.

Act IV, Scene III - Juliet's chamber.

Vocabulary

orisons – prayers

receptacle – place for discarding the unwanted or those who have passed away
 mandrake – a plant whose root was said to look like the human form; if the root was pulled from the ground it was believed to cause madness or death

1. If the potion does not work, what is Juliet's plan?

Juliet plans to stab herself.

2. Juliet is a little fearful and a little suspicious. What suspicion about the Friar does she voice?

The potion may very well be poison, and the Friar could be saving his own honor by poisoning her. She concludes, though, that the Friar is a holy man and will never do something like that.

3. What worry occupies Juliet next?

Juliet wonders what she will do if she wakes from the poison before Romeo gets there and finds herself alone with all the bones and spirits.

4. What is the literary term for Juliet's speech in this scene?

Juliet's speech is an example of a monologue.

Act IV, Scene IV - Hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary quinces – fruits trim – decorate, beautify, adorn

1. During the interchange between the Nurse, Lord Capulet, and Lady Capulet, what has his wife accused him of?

Lady Capulet claims he has been known to chase after other women.

2. What does all the action in the house indicate?

Everyone is preparing for a wedding feast.

Act IV, Scene V – Juliet's chamber.

Vocabulary

aqua-vitae - intense spirits (Latin: "water of life")
lamentable - wretched, woeful
martyr'd - abused, punished
confusions - chaos
dirges - sad songs played at funerals
troth - truth
pestilent - extremely offensive, dreadful

1. How do Lord and Lady Capulet react to the news of Juliet's death?

Lord and Lady Capulet are shocked. Lady Capulet says she will die, too. Lord Capulet feels a great loss; he says he has gotten death as a son-in-law.

2. As he learns of Juliet's supposed death, what does Lord Capulet compare Juliet to? What literary term is being illustrated?

Lord Capulet uses a simile to describe Juliet: "Death lies on her like an untimely frost/Upon the sweetest flower of all the field."

3. Does the grief seem sincere?

It is doubtful that they do not feel a great loss. Even Friar Laurence is convinced they do.

4. How does the Friar try to comfort the grieving parents?

The Friar comforts them by explaining that they do not have the ability to keep Juliet from death forever; they should dry their tears, for now Juliet is in heaven: "Heaven and yourself/Had part in this fair maid; now heaven hath all,/And all the better is it for the maid:/Your part in her you could not keep from death;/But heaven keeps his part in eternal life."

5. What literary term is illustrated here:

"Our instruments to melancholy bells; Our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast; Our solemn hymns to sullen dirges change; Our bridal flowers serve for a buried corse..."

With the multiple use of the words "Our" and "to," this passage becomes an example of anaphora.

6. The next section between Peter and the musicians, seems to be for comic relief. How do you suppose the comic relief scene is supposed to function in the play?

After the sadness and weeping for Juliet's death, Shakespeare introduces a lighter moment in which Peter berates and terrorizes the musicians. It provides a little relief from the somber action.

Act V, Scene I – Mantua. A street.

Vocabulary
presage – predict
apothecary – a pharmacist
meagre – scrawny, slender
penury – deprivation, neediness
caitiff – slave-like

1. In Romeo's short speech at the start of this scene, find an example of foreshadowing.

Romeo mentions how he dreamt "...my lady came and found me dead—." This line foreshadows the later misunderstanding and Romeo's own death.

2. The Friar is supposed to send a messenger to Romeo informing him of the plan and Juliet's fake death. Who arrives in Mantua instead, and what news does he give Romeo? What theme is this incident supporting?

Balthasar arrives and tells Romeo that Juliet is dead. Like everyone else, Balthasar believes Juliet is truly dead. Fate has intervened, proving that destiny controls life.

3. Although it is illegal to sell poisons in Mantua, how is Romeo able to purchase some?

Romeo finds a starving pharmacist and tempts him with forty pieces of gold.

4. Romeo has to do some convincing before the pharmacist agrees to sell the poison. How does Romeo convince the pharmacist and what does this show about Romeo's opinion of the world? In addition, discuss how this scene demonstrates the power of love, continuing with a major theme of the play?

Romeo reminds the pharmacist, who is poor and starving, that the law has done nothing for him, "... The world is not thy friend, nor the world's law:/The world affords no law to make thee rich;/Then be not poor, but break it, and take this."

It is the law that is keeping Romeo from Juliet, therefore, Romeo has no respect for the law. It is the powerful love that he has for Juliet that brings Romeo to feel this utter disrespect for the law.

Act V, Scene II - Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary pestilence – disease

1. Why is Friar John not able to go to Mantua and deliver Friar Laurence's message to Romeo? What theme does this situation support?

An outbreak of disease causes Friar John to be quarantined to a house that he was visiting. Fate is in ultimate control.

2. What revision does Friar Laurence make in his plan?

Friar Laurence decides to go to the vault and break it open so he can be there when Juliet wakes. Then he plans to sneak her back to his cell and attempt to get another message to Romeo.

Act V, Scene III – A churchyard; in it a monument belonging to the Capulets.

Vocabulary
obsequies – devotion; mourning
mattock – axe
maw – mouth (like a grave)
ensign – sign, pennant
crimson – red
sunder – sever, disconnect (the soul from the body)
paramour – concubine, mistress
inauspicious – unimportant
sepulchre – vault, grave
contagion – disease
restorative – successful, competent medication
descry – find, uncover
ambiguities – mysteries, uncertainties
direful – horrible, awful

1. What is Paris doing at the crypt?

Paris is there to spread flowers and pay his respects to Juliet.

2. What does Romeo give to Balthasar? What does Romeo tell Balthasar to do? Why does Balthasar choose not to do it?

Balthasar is given a letter to deliver to Romeo's father. Balthasar is ordered, by Romeo, to leave the monument and not to come back. Balthasar, however, does not leave because the look in Romeo's eyes is worrisome.

3. What metaphor does Romeo create regarding the crypt, and what is his meaning?

Romeo compares the crypt, with its dead bodies, to the jaws of a monster. He plans to pry the jaws open and add one more morsel of food to the mouth, his own dead body.

4. Why do Paris and Romeo fight, since Romeo really has no wish to fight anyone?

Paris is going to arrest Romeo and bring him to the Prince. Although he has no wish to, Romeo fights and kills Paris. Romeo is intent on finishing what he has come to do.

5. Although he has just fatally wounded Paris, what act of compassion does Romeo perform for Paris?

Paris requests he be carried inside the tomb so that he can die near Juliet. Romeo agrees to do this.

6. Who or what does the Friar say has thwarted all their plans?

A greater power than can be contradicted is what the Friar blames, referring to God or Fate, as the controller of these events. This supports the theme that Fate will determine the future and no one has control over their own life.

7. With Romeo and Paris dead, Juliet wakes. How does the Friar hope to resolve this mess?

The Friar wants Juliet to leave the crypt with him, and he will hide her "...Among a sisterhood of holy nuns:..."

8. When Juliet refuses to leave the monument, what does the Friar do?

The Friar hears a noise, and does not wish to be found there with all the newly dead bodies, so he runs out of the monument.

9. What does Juliet do?

Juliet stabs herself with Romeo's dagger.

10. What has happened to Romeo's mother?

Lady Montague had died of grief after hearing of Romeo's banishment.

11. The concluding lines of the play state a major theme in this play. Identify these lines, state what they mean and how they reflect the theme.

The hatred between Capulet and Montague brings on all the tragedy. Their hate kills Romeo, Juliet, and Tybalt. Because the Prince does not attempt to control the hatred and deal with it forcefully when he should have, he too feels guilty. With the deaths of his kinsmen, Mercutio and Count Paris, the Prince too has been punished for his failure to act. The point that civil discord is ruinous and must not be tolerated is made very forcefully in this speech. This shows that the power of love can be just as powerful as hatred – love can result in violence and death, just as hate can.

12. Identify the play's exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

Exposition – Prologue
Rising Action – Tybalt's death and Juliet's engagement to Paris
Climax – Romeo and Juliet's duel suicide
Falling Action – the discovery of the bodies in the monument
Resolution – the reconciliation of the feuding families and the Prince's final words

Romeo and Juliet

Study Guide Student's Copy

Prologue

mu	Vocabulary mutiny – strife, rivalry piteous – passionate	
1.	In the prologue, Shakespeare tells his audience what they are to expect in the play. Why do you suppose Shakespeare chooses to use this technique?	
2.	Where is the play set?	
3.	Put the following lines into your own words: "From forth the fatal loins of these two foes A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;"	

4.	What does the term "star-cross'd lovers" suggest?
5.	Put these lines into your own words:
	"Whose misadventur'd piteous overthrows Doth, with their death, bury their parents' strife."
5.	Do you think this prologue is necessary or unnecessary?

Act I, Scene I – Verona. A public place.

Vocabulary **colliers** – people who dig or sell coals valiant – brave **fray** – brawl partisans – weapons pernicious - vindictive, wicked **beseeming** – becoming adversary – enemy, nemesis ere – before drave – drove **covert** – thicket augmenting - increasing importuned – inquired, questioned tyrannous – cruel, vicious siege – the act of being encircled ope – open **posterity** – future generations

1. What are Sampson and Gregory discussing in the first eleven lines of this scene?

2. Sampson and Gregory are bragging, vulgar-mouthed men who engage in word games. What bawdy comment does Sampson make? What kind of 'love' is this an example of?

3. Who are the two Montagues Gregory and Sampson meet on their way? The Capulets draw their weapons, but what indicates that they are not as brave as they say they are?

4.	Why do you suppose biting a thumb is offensive to the Capulets?
5.	Who is Benvolio and what does he attempt to do?
6.	How does Tybalt, a Capulet, misinterpret Benvolio's action? What does Tybalt say to him?
7.	Why is Tybalt considered hot-tempered?
8.	What does Lady Capulet say about Lord Capulet's age and condition?
9.	What do you suppose prompts Lady Montague to hold her husband back from the fight?

10.	The Prince appears, and he is angry. Why is he angry, and what is the promise and threat he makes?
11.	Lady Montague, glad that Romeo has missed the fight, asks Benvolio if he has seen Romeo. What is Benvolio's response?
12.	Montague, when speaking of Romeo's recent depression, states:
	"But all so soon as the all-cheering sun Should in the farthest east begin to draw The shady curtains from Aurora's bed, Away from light steals home my heavy son, And private in his chamber pens himself," Interpret these lines. What is Montague saying about his son, Romeo? Who is Aurora? Why do you think Shakespeare includes her in these lines? What literary term is employed by the use of Aurora?
13.	Romeo enters and tells Benvolio the problem. What is his problem?
14.	Romeo's lines can be seen as presenting the paradox of love or simply as romantic nonsense. What indication is there that Romeo recognizes his sentiments could be viewed as romantic nonsense?

15.	What is Benvolio's response?
16.	"Love is a smoke raised with the fume of sighs; Being purged, a fire sparkling in lover's eyes; Being vex'd, a sea nourish'd with lovers' tears:" What literary term is illustrated here?
17.	Although Benvolio and Romeo are saddened by unrequited love, what joke are they able to make?
18.	What is the nature of Romeo's desire toward Rosaline? According to the tradition of courtly love, how is Romeo expected to respond to her rejection?
19.	What practical advice does Benvolio give Romeo?
20.	"O, she is rich in beauty, only poor That, when she dies, with beauty dies her store." What are these two lines an example of?

Act I, Scene II – A street.

Wocabulary merit — deserve sirrah — sir holp — helped languish — persistent disease heretics — people whose opinions differ from the official faith (Christianity) scant — barely, hardly	
1.	After speaking briefly, Paris gets to the point of his visit to the Capulets. What does he ask of Lord Capulet?
2.	What is Capulet's response?
3.	Paris responds that girls younger than she have been married. What is Capulet's response to this?
4.	What suggestion and invitation does Capulet make to Paris?

5.	Compare Capulet's speech at the beginning of this scene to Sampson and Gregory's conversation at the beginning of Act I, Scene I. How are the speeches different? Why do you think Shakespeare chose to write the speeches so differently?
6.	In his conversation with Romeo, Benvolio says:
	"Take thou some new infection to the eye, And the rank poison of the old will die."
	Interpret these lines.
7.	What does the "poison" Benvolio mentions symbolize?
8.	Romeo, lamenting his unrequited love, is approached by an illiterate servingman. In reading his list he finds that Rosaline, his love, is going to attend the Capulet party. What suggestion does Benvolio make?
9.	When Romeo responds that Rosaline is the most beautiful woman since time began, what is Benvolio's response?

Act I, Scene III – A room in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary dug – teat, nipple tetchy – touchy, oversensitive, irritable trow – say rood – crucifix perilous – dangerous, hazardous lineament – aspect, characteristic margent – margin endart – take flight and puncture like an arrow	
1.	Juliet will turn 14 on Lammas-eve. What is the Lammas-tide the women speak of?
2.	The Nurse quotes the vulgar remark that her husband made to young Juliet and then, she likes it so much that she repeats it. What do the Nurse's indecent remarks in front of the family indicate about their relationship?
3.	What does Lady Capulet tell Juliet? What is Juliet's response?

Act I, Scene IV - A street.

Vocabulary **prolixity** – overly lengthy Tartar – a warrior lath – wood **burthen** – burden visage – face wantons – tomboys mire - mud **agate-stone** – a stone with small figures cut into it alderman – city ruler traces - harnesses **gossamer** – sheer, light filmy substance **benefice** – secular lifestyle ambuscadoes - traps anon – promptly, soon vile – wicked, heinous steerage – direction

1. Why does Romeo say he is unable to dance?

2. How do the Montagues expect to be able to enter a Capulet house?

3. Romeo is apprehensive about going to the masquerade because of the dream he had the night before. Romeo seems to believe (as did many in Shakespeare's day) that dreams have something to do with life. Perhaps Romeo believes dreams act as omens. What is Mercutio's opinion of dreams?

4.	What does Mercutio's speech reveal about his character?
5.	Choose 4 – 8 lines of Mercutio's dream and write a brief summary.
6.	How does Benvolio end the conversation?
7.	What is Romeo's misgiving, and what does the line "some consequence, yet hanging in the stars" have to do with his feeling of dread? Discuss the theme this quote illustrates.

Act I, Scene V – A hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary
nuptial – wedding ceremony
ward – dependent
rapier – a small sword
solemnity – festivities
disparagement – affliction, injury, harm
scathe – hurt, injure
princox – a rude, impolite boy
perforce – is a requirement; is essential
choler – fury, anger
gall – detest, disgust
prodigious – threatening, ominous

- 1. Lord Capulet and a relative stand, unmasked, on one side of the room. Romeo, masked, standing on the other side, asks a servingman who Juliet is. How does Romeo describe the girl, and what does he conclude?
- 2. What is Tybalt's reaction when he hears Romeo's voice?
- 3. What does Lord Capulet say to Tybalt in reference to Romeo's attendance at the party?
- 4. Tybalt obeys his uncle, but what does he foresee?
- 5. Romeo, approaching Juliet, begins a conversation, and ends up kissing her twice before the Nurse comes to tell Juliet that her mother requests her. Romeo and his friends leave. How does the audience know that Juliet feels as strongly about Romeo as he does for her?

Act II – Prologue.

1.	The chorus comments on the action of the play. In your own words, discuss the meaning of the first four lines.
2.	What problem is alluded to concerning the lovers?
3.	What is the suggested answer to their problem?
4.	What is the rhyme scheme of the prologue for Act II? What type of poem is the prologue?
5.	Identify the half rhyme within the prologue.

Act II, Scene I - A lane by the wall of Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary purblind – physically blind Venus – Roman goddess of love and beauty demesnes – domain, territory invocation – the act of calling a superior for help

1. Romeo slips away from his friends; the practical, vulgar Mercutio makes some indecent comments about Rosaline. What misapprehension are Mercutio and Benvolio under? What truth does the audience know?

Act II, Scene II – Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary

vestal - celibate, virtuous
livery - appearance
enmity - hatred
perjuries - falsehoods
Jove - chief Roman god, Jupiter
perverse - passionless, indifferent, unsympathetic
ware - conscious of, aware
idolatry - worship
falconer - a hawk trainer
gyves - chains, shackles

1. As the scene opens, Romeo enters and says:

"He jests at scars that never felt a wound."

What is Romeo referring to? What does this statement suggest?

2. Romeo's first speech is among the most famous of Shakespeare's soliloquies. What is the main idea in Romeo's speech? Put the last seven lines of this speech into your own words.

3.	Does Juliet know that Romeo is beneath her window?
4.	One of the most famous lines is when Juliet explains: "O Romeo, Romeo! Wherfore art thou Romeo?" What do these lines mean?
5.	Juliet makes a secret vow to Romeo; what is this vow? What is the significance of this quote in relation to a major theme of the play?
6.	Romeo, after listening to Juliet profess her love, decides to make his presence known. How does Romeo identify himself? Find the quote, then put the passage into modern words.
7.	As Juliet knows, Romeo is risking death by being there. When she mentions this fact to Romeo, what is his response?
8.	Romeo, still trying to convince Juliet of his safety, says: "I have night's cloak to hide me from their eyes" What may "night" symbolize?

9.	Juliet is embarrassed that Romeo has overheard how she feels about him, but she decides to ignore convention. Although deeply in love herself, how does she show herself to be shrewd and knowledgeable about men? What concern does Juliet reveal in her private thoughts?
10.	When Romeo swears by the moon, what does Juliet tell him?
11.	What does Juliet mean when she tells Romeo, "swear by the gracious self,/Which is the god of my idolatry,"
12.	Juliet professes how she idolizes Romeo. What previous scene does this remind you of?
13.	What second thoughts does Juliet have? Quote the passage that reveals these thoughts.
14.	After an exchange of vows, the Nurse calls and Juliet must leave. What is Romeo's feeling as he stands there?
15.	Juliet reappears. What does she tell Romeo?

16.	When Juliet reappears, for the second time, she claims:
	"Bondage is hoarse, and may not speak aloud; Else would I tear the cave where Echo lies, And make her airy tongue more hoarse than mine, With repetition of my Romeo's name."
	Why is Juliet's allusion to Echo significant?
17.	It is apparent that neither Romeo nor Juliet wants the night to end. What is Juliet's famous parting line?
18.	What decision does Romeo make?

Act II, Scene III – Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary chequering – speckling, spotting osier – tree of the willow family shrift – confession brine – tears chid'st – scolds, reprimands doting – excessively loving		
1.	At the beginning of the scene, Friar Laurence, makes a very profound speech. Choose one full sentence in his speech to interpret. Can any of what the Friar says be applied to the world now?	
2.	The Friar assumes that Romeo is out so early because he has been up all night with Rosaline. When the Friar is informed that it is not Rosaline, but a Capulet, Romeo wishes to marry, what is the Friar's reaction?	
3.	How is the Friar making fun of Romeo?	
4.	Why does the Friar agree to help Romeo and Juliet get married?	

Act II, Scene IV – A street.

Vocabulary **cleft** – split **fantasticoes** – gallants, cavaliers, suitors roe – fish eggs **fishified** – changed to a fish dowdy – trollop, harlot, prostitute hams – knees ell – a measurement of forty-five inches mar – hurt **troth** – loyalty, devotion **bawd** – whore, prostitute **lenten** – pie made during Lent vexed – disturbed, troubled shrived – forgiven, pardoned **convov** – carriage, transportation prating - gossiping, babbling **lieve** – rather, "just as soon" apace – swiftly, rapidly

- 1. Once again, Mercutio yammers on and on at the beginning of this scene. Both Mercutio and Benvolio believe that Romeo is still pining over Rosaline. Once Romeo enters, Mercutio, in one passage, makes several allusions. List the allusions then, do a little research to explain what the allusions mean and how they fit in the context of this scene.
- 2. "Without his roe, like a dried herring: O flesh, flesh, how are thou fishified!" What is the pun Mercutio is making here? What type of pun is this?
- 3. As Romeo enters, Mercutio and Benvolio are discussing Romeo's longing for Rosaline and Tybalt's challenge to Romeo. What change in Romeo's behavior does Mercutio comment on?

4.	The Nurse and Peter arrive looking for Romeo. How does Romeo respond?
5.	What do you think the Nurse's malapropism, using "confidence" instead of "conference", suggests about her character, or about the situation?
6.	After Benvolio and Mercutio leave, the Nurse asks, "what saucy merchant was this, that was so full of his ropery?" What is Romeo's answer?
7.	The Nurse, expresses certain doubts about Romeo. What are these doubts and how does Romeo respond?
8.	What is the message that Romeo gives to the Nurse for Juliet?
9.	Romeo tells the Nurse that his "man" will deliver something beyond the abbey-wall. What is Romeo's "man" bringing?

Act II, Scene V – Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary lame – incapacitated, physically handicapped heralds – couriers, messengers		
feign – fabricate, act fie – a curse beshrew – a mild curse hie – leave wanton – magnificent, extravagant		
1.	Juliet waits anxiously for the Nurse to return. How is Juliet able to justify her Nurse's tardiness?	
2.	How does the Nurse tease Juliet?	
3.	Finally, what does the Nurse tell Juliet?	
4.	The Nurse is off to fetch the rope ladder. What is this rope ladder going to be used for?	

Act II, Scene VI - Friar Laurence's cell.

3.

Vocabulary flint – stone with which to make fire wanton – playful, spirited, exuberant blazon – compliment, glorify When speaking with Friar Laurence, while waiting for Juliet, Romeo says: "Do thou close our hands with holy words,/Then love-devouring death do what he dare,/It is enough I may but call her mine." After interpreting Romeo's words, what do you think this passage suggests? In expressing his reservations about the marriage, find a quote from Friar Laurence, that could foreshadow future events.

What follows after Romeo, Juliet, and Friar Laurence exit from the stage?

Act III, Scene I – A public place.

Vocabulary addle – jumbled doublet – piece of men's clothing zounds – derived from an oath "God's wounds" (swounds) haunt – popular place appertaining – relevant, pertinent dry-beat – to beat, lash, wallop pilcher – case or cover for a sword passado – fencing term effeminate – powerless, weak		
1.	How does Benvolio show himself to be a reasoning man?	
2.	What is Mercutio's response? Is he correct?	
3.	How does Mercutio show himself to be the more reckless of the two?	
4.	Romeo enters. Tybalt has a few heated words for Romeo. Even after hearing the insults Romeo says he has to love Tybalt. Why does Romeo says this?	
5.	How does Romeo hint to his marriage to Juliet?	

6.	How does Mercutio react to Romeo's refusal to fight with Tybalt? Why is this element of the scene significant?
7.	In what way is Romeo responsible for Mercutio's being stabbed?
8.	In what way is Mercutio's comment about his wound ironic?
9.	Romeo says, "My very friend hath got this mortal hurt/In my behalf; my reputation stain'd/With Tybalt's slander,—" Romeo uses "stain'd", which takes on a duel meaning. What are the different meanings?
10.	What is Romeo's reaction to Mercutio's death?
11.	What is Romeo willing to sacrifice for Mercutio?
12.	Once killing Tybalt, Romeo says, "O, I am fortune's fool!" What does he mean by this? What major theme does this statement support?

13.	Throughout this play, loyalty proves to be a determining factor for characters who have a decision to make. What is your opinion of Benvolio after he tells the Prince that Romeo is responsible for Tybalt's death?
14.	What does Lady Capulet request of the Prince?
15.	What slant does Benvolio put on his account of the fight?
16.	What is Lady Capulet's comment on Benvolio's story?
17.	What is the Prince's decision?

Act III, Scene II – Capulet's orchard.

Phoen amongari cock wear cors beda bow mon	abulary ebus – Roman god of the sun (Apollo) ethon – son of Apollo erous – passionate, loving sh – elaborate, pretentious eatrice – a mythological creature said to have the ability to kill with a single look I – security, success, fortune e – corpse aub'd – covered, smeared er – surround, encompass earch – prince, king, ruler ailed – fooled, seduced
1.	The night is a very significant time for Romeo and Juliet. In her soliloquy, she mentions "night" at least 12 times. List 10 ways Juliet uses "night".
2.	As Juliet waits for night and Romeo's visit, the Nurse arrives with news. What is the news, and how is it presented?
3.	Juliet's first reaction is to call Romeo names. What does she call her beloved Romeo? The names she calls Romeo are quite obscure; what do you think they suggest? What is odd about these insults?

4.	After the name calling, what is Juliet's second reaction? What does this second reaction prove?
5.	Juliet, figuratively states: "Some word there was, worser than Tybalt's death,/That murder'd me" What is it that "murder'd" Juliet? Why does she choose to express herself in this way?
6.	Why does the Nurse, who is obviously fond of Tybalt, volunteer to go and get Romeo?
7.	Where is Romeo hiding, what seems to be Juliet's plan, and what does she give to the Nurse?

Act III, Scene III – Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary
affliction – agony, depression, grief
sack – rob, ransack, raid
usurer – money-lender
digressing – departing, diverging, drifting

usurer – money-lender digressing – departing, diverging, drifting		
1.	How does Romeo react to the news that he has been banished?	
2.	What is Friar Laurence's reaction to Romeo's complaining?	
3.	Romeo is obviously devastated to be banished from his Juliet, but he is being very stubborn, not even attempting to listen to the Friar's advice and positive words. Romeo tells the Friar to "talk no more." What does the Friar conclude at this point?	
4.	Why is the Friar unable, according to Romeo, to truly understand Romeo's feelings about Juliet and being banished?	

5.	The Nurse arrives and informs the Friar and Romeo that Juliet, too, is crying just as Romeo is. Hearing of Juliet's unhappiness and the hatred he supposes she feels toward him, he draws his knife to kill himself. What does the Friar accuse him of?
6.	For what things does the Friar say Romeo should be happy about?
7.	What does the Friar then tell him to do? What instructions does the Friar give Romeo?

Act III, Scene IV – A room in Capulet's house. Vocabulary kinsman – relative

1.	In the conversation between Lord Capulet, his wife, and Paris, what do they think is Juliet's present cause of grief?
2.	What is learned about Paris' character?
3.	What decision does Lord Capulet make, and why do you suppose he makes this decision?
4.	What is your opinion of Juliet's parents and of Paris?

Act III, Scene V - Capulet's orchard.

Vocabulary **jocund** – joyful; invigorating asunder – split, separate, apart runagate - wanderer, nomad **dram** – destructive, harmful potion carrion – contaminated person; diseased flesh prudence – sense, shrewdness **puling** – lamenting, complaining **stratagems** – horrifying, shocking acts stealth – secret, concealed action dishclout – dishcloth twain – two 1. Summarize the conversation between Romeo and Juliet at the opening of this scene. 2. The mother enters and, seeing Juliet weeping at Romeo's departure, believes the weeping is for Tybalt. The mother then vents her own anger at Romeo and discloses her plan to have him found and poisoned. Why does Juliet appear to speak ill of Romeo? 3. What news does Juliet's mother bring? What is Juliet's response to her mother? 4. Why does Lord Capulet get so angry when he hears of Juliet's desire not to marry? 5. Why do you think Lord Capulet is so controlling of his family?

What does Lord Capulet threaten if Juliet chooses not to marry Paris?

6.

7.	When the Nurse tries to speak up for Juliet, what is she told?
8.	In the last words of Lord Capulet's speech, how does he try to persuade Juliet to go through with the marriage to Paris?
9.	If forced to marry, what does Juliet threaten? What is her mother's response?
10.	What is the Nurse's advice, and how can she give that advice knowing how Juliet feels?
11.	In what way does the Nurse's opinion contrast with Juliet's? What kind of character does this make the Nurse?
12.	When Juliet hears this opinion, what is her decision regarding the Nurse?
13.	Juliet tells the Nurse she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sins. Why is she really going there?

Act IV, Scene I - Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary
inundation – deluge, surge
pensive – melancholy
prorogue – postpone, suspend
arbitrating – settling, resolving
charnel-house – designated area for discarding bones of the dead
reeky – wretched, foul, vile
shanks – calves (parts of the human body)
surcease – to end, stop, halt

1. What does Juliet tell the Friar?

2. List three things Juliet is willing to do "...without fear or doubt...rather than marry Paris"?

3. What plan does the Friar set out?

Act IV, Scene II - Hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary forsooth – in fact, correct gadding – lazily wandering, strolling behests – orders, rulings prostrate – lying flat tush – "keep quiet"

1. Why is Lord Capulet happy?

Act IV, Scene III - Juliet's chamber.

Vocabulary orisons – prayers

receptacle – place for discarding the unwanted or those who have passed away
 mandrake – a plant whose root was said to look like the human form; if the root was pulled from the ground it was believed to cause madness or death

- 1. If the potion does not work, what is Juliet's plan?
- 2. Juliet is a little fearful and a little suspicious. What suspicion about the Friar does she voice?
- 3. What worry occupies Juliet next?
- 4. What is the literary term for Juliet's speech in this scene?

Act IV, Scene IV - Hall in Capulet's house.

Vocabulary
quinces – fruits
trim – decorate, beautify, adorn

1. During the interchange between the Nurse, Lord Capulet, and Lady Capulet, what has his wife accused him of?

2. What does all the action in the house indicate?

Act IV, Scene V – Juliet's chamber.

Vocabulary aqua-vitae – intense spirits (Latin: "water of life") lamentable – wretched, woeful martyr'd – abused, punished confusions – chaos dirges – sad songs played at funerals troth – truth pestilent – extremely offensive, dreadful		
1.	How do Lord and Lady Capulet react to the news of Juliet's death?	
2.	As he learns of Juliet's supposed death, what does Lord Capulet compare Juliet to? What literary term is being illustrated?	
3.	Does the grief seem sincere?	
4.	How does the Friar try to comfort the grieving parents?	

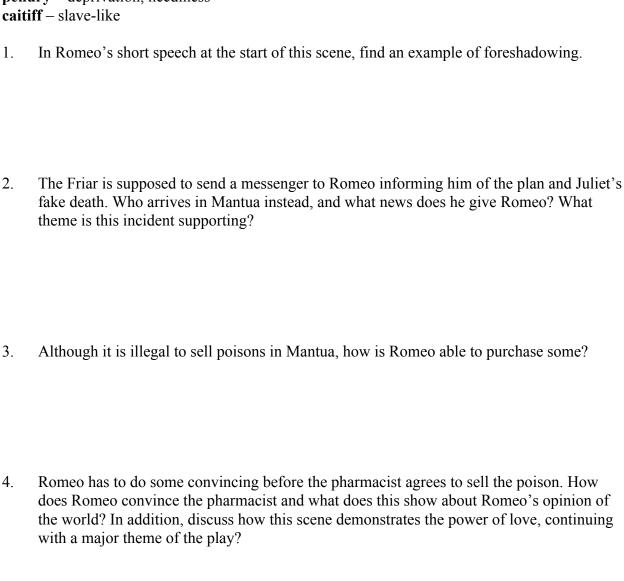
5. What literary term is illustrated here:

"Our instruments to melancholy bells; Our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast; Our solemn hymns to sullen dirges change; Our bridal flowers serve for a buried corse,..."

6. The next section between Peter and the musicians, seems to be for comic relief. How do you suppose the comic relief scene is supposed to function in the play?

Act V, Scene I - Mantua. A street.

Vocabulary
presage – predict
apothecary – a pharmacist
meagre – scrawny, slender
penury – deprivation, neediness
caitiff – slave-like



Act V, Scene II – Friar Laurence's cell.

Vocabulary pestilence – disease

1. Why is Friar John not able to go to Mantua and deliver Friar Laurence's message to Romeo? What theme does this situation support?

2. What revision does Friar Laurence make in his plan?

Act V, Scene III – A churchyard; in it a monument belonging to the Capulets.

obsect matter maw ensig crims sund paratinaus sepul contaresto descriambi	cuies – devotion; mourning cock – axe – mouth (like a grave) cn – sign, pennant son – red er – sever, disconnect (the soul from the body) mour – concubine, mistress spicious – unimportant lehre – vault, grave agion – disease rative – successful, competent medication cy – find, uncover guities – mysteries, uncertainties ul – horrible, awful
1.	What is Paris doing at the crypt?
2.	What does Romeo give to Balthasar? What does Romeo tell Balthasar to do? Why does Balthasar choose not to do it?
3.	What metaphor does Romeo create regarding the crypt, and what is his meaning?
4.	Why do Paris and Romeo fight, since Romeo really has no wish to fight anyone?
5.	Although he has just fatally wounded Paris, what act of compassion does Romeo perform for Paris?

6.	Who or what does the Friar say has thwarted all their plans?
7.	With Romeo and Paris dead, Juliet wakes. How does the Friar hope to resolve this mess?
8.	When Juliet refuses to leave the monument, what does the Friar do?
9.	What does Juliet do?
10.	What has happened to Romeo's mother?
11.	The concluding lines of the play state a major theme in this play. Identify these lines, state what they mean and how they reflect the theme.
12.	Identify the play's exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution

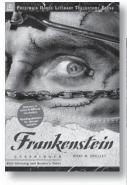
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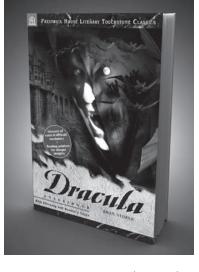
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