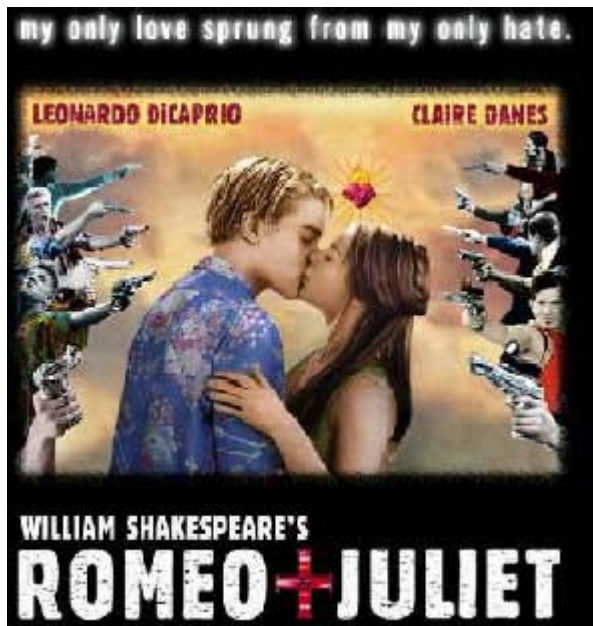


William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet



“A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their
life;
Whole misadventured piteous overthrows
Do with their death bury their parents'
strife.”

Prologue





William Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet
Act One (study guide)

ACT ONE -SCENE ONE

1. Between what two families does the feud exist?

_____ vs. _____

2. What decree does the Prince make after the street brawl?

3. What advice does Benvolio give Romeo about Rosaline?

ACT ONE -SCENE TWO

1. How does Capulet respond to Paris' proposal to marry Juliet?

2. How do Romeo and Benvolio learn about the Capulet's ball? What do they decide to do?

ACT ONE -SCENE THREE

1. How does Juliet feel about getting married?

2. How old is Juliet? What is Lammastide? On what date does it come?

ACT ONE - SCENE FOUR

1. When and where does this scene take place?

2. Explain Romeo's speech (lines 106-113).

ACT ONE - SCENE FIVE

1. Where does this scene take place?

2. Who is Romeo talking about in lines 46-55? Explain the irony in these lines.

3. Why does Tybalt become so upset, and how does Capulet respond to his rage?

4. Who said the following lines and why?

A) "is she a Capulet? O dear account, my life is my foe's debt."

B) "My only love sprung from my only hate Too early seen unknown and known too late."

5. Find one example of each of the following literary devices used anywhere in Act One.

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Pun | 6. Hyperbole |
| 2. Alliteration | 7. Irony |
| 3. Oxymoron | 8. Comic Relief |
| 4. Allusion | 9. Foreshadow |
| 5. Metaphor | 10. Aside |

Romeo and Juliet
Act Two (study guide)

Explain the Prologue.

ACT TWO - SCENE ONE:

Explain the dramatic irony in this scene.

ACT TWO - SCENE TWO:

(This is the most famous scene in the entire play.)

1. Fill in the blanks in this paraphrase of Romeo's soliloquy (lines 1-32)

Shh! What _____ is at the _____? _____ shines through the window like the _____ rises in the _____. Arise, beautiful sun (Juliet) and replace the _____ who is jealous because you, her maid (Diana - Virgin moon goddess) are _____ than she. Don't be a _____ since the moon is _____ of you. Her innocence is sickly, and only a _____ would keep it.

Oh! It's Juliet! I wish she knew that I _____ her. She speaks, but says _____. How strange. She speaks with her eyes. I'll _____ her. No, I'd better not since she isn't _____.

Two of the _____ in heaven have asked her _____ to twinkle for them while they take care of some _____. If her eyes were there, her _____ would make the stars seem dull just as _____ outshines a lamp. Her eyes would shine so _____ that the _____ would think it were _____ and begin to _____. O' I wish that I could touch her _____.

She speaks. O speak again bright _____, for you are as glorious to this _____, being over my _____ (up at the window) as is an angel of _____ is to _____ who look up and see him when he walks on the _____ and sails on the _____.

2. Explain Juliet's soliloquy (lines 33-44)

3. How is this an example of dramatic irony?

4. Fill in the blanks in this paraphrase of Juliet's speech (lines 35-106)

You know it is _____ or you could see me _____ because you _____ me talking about you. If I followed proper etiquette, I'd _____ I ever said it. But who cares about etiquette! Do you _____ me? Don't say yes unless you really _____ it. If you think that I am too _____, I'll play _____ so you can _____ my affections. The truth is I am foolishly in _____ with you, and you might not take me _____. But _____ me, and I'll _____ myself to be more _____ than those who know how to play hard to _____. I would have been more _____ I must confess, but since you allude _____ me confess my _____ for you, there is no _____ to be.

5. After Romeo and Juliet vow their love for one another, what do they decide to do and when?

ACT TWO - SCENE THREE

This scene opens with Friar Laurence collecting herbs. He is discussing the properties of the herbs and the purposes for which they may be used. This demonstrates Friar Laurence's knowledge of herbs and foreshadows that this knowledge may serve some purpose in future events in the drama.

The sky turns _____ as the _____ gives way to _____. Streaks of _____ speckle the Eastern _____ as the _____ rises in its normal course. Now, before the _____ rises fully and _____ the dew, I must fill this _____ with _____ and _____. The earth is both the place of _____ and _____ for all of _____. We find all kinds of _____ growing from the earth; Some are _____ and some _____, but all are _____. Plants and _____ and _____ have great _____. There is nothing on earth so _____ that it does not have some _____ qualities, and nothing so _____ that it cannot be used for _____. Even goodness itself turns to vice when _____, and _____ put to good use may appear worthy. Within this _____ lies _____ as well as _____; for it has a very pleasing _____, but if you _____ it, it will _____ you. It is the same with _____. He is part _____ and part _____, and when the bad side of his nature is _____ than the good, he'll sooner or later _____ himself.

2. Why does Romeo go to see Friar Laurence?
 3. How does Friar Laurence respond to Romeo's request?
 4. Why does Friar Laurence consent to Romeo's request?
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ACT TWO - SCENE FOUR

This scene serves as a contrast to the preceding scene in Friar Laurence's cell. Mercutio and Benvolio are in a merry mood as they walk along talking and laughing about Romeo whom they think is still pining away over Rosaline. Benvolio mentions that Tybalt has sent a challenge to Romeo. Mercutio then gives a long description of Tybalt's eagerness to fight. Romeo comes along in

a good mood after his talk with Friar Laurence. They engage in a series of puns matching their wits against each other. Along comes Juliet's nurse and Peter (her servant).

1. For whom is the nurse looking and why?
2. What warning does she give Romeo?

ACT TWO - SCENE FIVE

Juliet is waiting very impatiently for the nurse's return. Why does she become so irritated when the nurse does return?

ACT TWO - SCENE SIX

Romeo and Juliet are married in Friar Laurence's cell. How does this scene foreshadow future events?

General - Find one example in Act Two of each of the following literary devices:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Conceit | 6. Simile |
| 2. Personification | 7. Dramatic Irony |
| 3. Hyperbole | 8. Paradox |
| 4. Pun | 9. Apostrophe |
| 5. Metaphor | 10. Allusion |

Romeo and Juliet Act Three (study guide)

ACT THREE - SCENE ONE

(This scene marks the climax of the drama.)

1. Tybalt, still enraged at Romeo's intrusion at the Capulet's ball, is determined to fight, but Romeo refuses. Why?
2. How does Mercutio get involved, and what happens to him?
3. How does Romeo react to this?

4. What decree does the Prince make?
5. Explain how this scene serves as the climax or turning point of the drama. (Think of all that has happened between Romeo and Juliet so far.)

ACT THREE - SCENE TWO

1. Complete this paraphrase of Juliet's soliloquy (lines 1-31)

Hurry up, _____ and set so that night will come and _____ can leap into my _____. Lovers don't need _____ to make love. If _____ is blind it best agrees with _____. Come on, night, so I can learn to _____ the love game. I'll _____ to Romeo, and we'll both lose our _____. Cover my blushing _____ until I grow _____ enough to act out my true _____. Come night. Come _____, and lie with me this night. Give me my _____ and when he _____ cut him up into little _____, and he will light the _____ so fine that all the _____ will be on love with _____ and not _____. Oh, I have taken the _____ vow, yet I am still a virgin. it's like a child who has new _____, but is not allowed to _____ them.

2. Explain the dramatic irony in the beginning of this scene.
3. How does Juliet react to the nurse's news?
4. What does Juliet plan to do with the cords? (See lines 132-137)
5. How does the nurse console her?

ACT THREE - SCENE THREE

1. How does Romeo react to the news of his banishment?
2. Complete this paraphrase of Friar Laurence's speech (lines 108-154).

Stop! - Are you a _____? You look like a man but you cry like a _____ and act like a _____. I'm surprised at you! I thought you were a better man than that. You already killed _____. Will you now kill _____ and by doing so kill _____ who loves you? What are you _____ about? You're alive aren't you? _____ on you! You are a _____ to your manhood, trying to

_____ yourself after vowing to love and _____ Juliet. Your _____ that should guide your body and your love is _____ like a _____ soldier trying to load his _____ and kills himself instead of the enemy. What's wrong with you _____? _____ is alive. There, you are lucky. _____ would have _____ you but instead you killed him. There, you are lucky. The Prince could have _____ you to _____, but he only _____ you. There, you are lucky. You have much to be _____ for, but instead of counting your _____, you sulk and _____ like a spoiled child. Stop sulking, and go to your _____ and _____ her. But don't _____ too long, or you won't be able to get pass the _____ to go to _____ where you can stay until I can tell your _____ about your _____, reconcile them, and get the _____ to _____ you so you can come back and live happily. Go, _____ and tell _____ to go to bed early because _____ is coming.

ACT THREE - SCENE FOUR

1. How does the action in this scene complicate matters even further?
2. How does Capulet's attitude now differ from his attitude when Paris first came to ask for Juliet's hand in marriage?
3. Explain the dramatic irony in this scene.

ACT THREE - SCENE FIVE

Day breaks, and the two lovers must part after consummating their wedding vows. Juliet is very reluctant to have Romeo leave her and does not want to admit that it is morning. Finally Romeo leaves and Juliet's mother comes to her chamber. Their conversation about Tybalt's death has Juliet speaking in ambiguous terms.

1. Explain the paradoxical phrases in lines 94-103.
2. How does Capulet react to Juliet's refusal to marry Paris?
3. What advise does the nurse give Juliet?
4. What does Juliet decide to do?

5. Find one example in act three of each of the following literary devices:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Allusion | 6. Simile |
| 2. Apostrophe | 7. Oxymoron |
| 3. Conceit | 8. Metonymy |
| 4. Personification | 9. Pun |
| 5. Foreshadow | 10. Irony |

Romeo and Juliet
Act Four (study guide)

ACT FOUR - SCENE ONE

Juliet is no longer the obedient child. The events of the past few days have caused her to mature. With no hope of help from her mother or the nurse she is now taking matters into her own hands. She gives the excuse that since she has displeased her father, she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sin and be absolved. (Notice how she deals with Paris at the opening of this scene.) Once Paris is gone Juliet pleads with Friar Laurence to help her out of her predicament.

Explain in detail the plan they arrange

ACT FOUR - SCENE TWO

1. What day is it now?
2. Juliet is so convincing in her deception that her father decides to move the wedding day up from Thursday to Wednesday. What Complication does this change foreshadow?

ACT FOUR - SCENE THREE

1. Complete this paraphrase of Juliet's soliloquy (lines 14-58)

Farewell! God knows when we shall _____ again. Oh, I'm so _____ that my _____ runs cold. I'll call them back to _____ me. Nurse! - But what can she do? I must do this alone. Come vial. But what if the potion doesn't _____ and I have to _____ Paris after all? I'll use this _____ on myself first! What if the Friar gave me _____ to kill me so that no one will find out that he already _____ me to Romeo? No, the Friar is proven to be a _____ man. He would not do that. But what if I _____ before _____ comes to take me away? That's scary. Will I not _____ in the vault before _____ comes? Or if I _____, my imagination will run _____ in that horrible place where the bones of my

_____ have been _____ for hundreds of years; where
_____ yet recently burned lies _____ in his shroud; where
_____ visit at some hours of the _____. Oh! Wouldn't those
horrible _____ and _____ drive a living person _____? If I
_____ will I not be so disturbed in the midst of these hideous
_____ that I play with my forefather's _____ or pull
_____ burial clothes off, and then in a fit of madness dash out my
_____ with my _____?

Oh look! I think I see my cousin's (Tybalt's) _____ looking for
_____ who cut him up with his _____. Stay back,
_____ stay back! Romeo, I come! I _____ this (potion) to
you.

2. List Juliet's fears as she is about to drink the potion.

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

ACT FOUR - SCENE FOUR

The Capulets are busy preparing for Juliet's wedding. The Nurse is told to wake Juliet up and get her ready.

ACT FOUR - SCENE FIVE

The nurse discovers Juliet's apparently lifeless body, and the happy day for the Capulets becomes a day of sorrow.

Explain the dramatic irony in Friar Laurence's speech (lines 65-83)

Romeo and Juliet
Act Five (study guide)

ACT FIVE - SCENE ONE

1. How does Romeo's dream, which he describes in his opening speech, compare with the news brought to him by Balthasar?
2. How does Romeo convince the apothecary to sell him poison?
3. What does he plan to do with the poison?

ACT FIVE - SCENE TWO

1. Explain the conversation between Friar Laurence and Friar John.
2. What does Friar Laurence now plan to do?

ACT FIVE - SCENE THREE

1. Why does Paris come to Juliet's burial place?
2. What happens when Romeo and Paris meet?
3. Romeo enters the tomb and sees Juliet. He takes the poison, and no sooner does Romeo die, than Friar Laurence comes along - but too late.
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN JULIET WAKES UP?
4. Complete this paraphrase of Friar Laurence's speech.
(lines 229-269)

I will be _____, for I don't expect to _____ long. Romeo and Juliet are _____ and _____. I _____ them in _____, and that same day was _____ killed and _____ banished. Juliet pined for her bridegroom and not for _____. You (Capulet) while trying to make her _____ promised her to _____ and would have _____ her to marry him. Then she came to me asking that I _____ to prevent her second marriage, or she would have _____ herself right there in my cell. So I gave her a _____ which was intended to make her _____. Meanwhile, I wrote a letter to _____ telling him to come _____ to take _____ from her borrowed grave when the potion _____. But Friar John, who was sent to

_____ the _____, was detained and brought the letter back to me. So I came alone at the time when Juliet was to _____ to take her from the vault and hide her in _____ until I could send another _____ to _____. When I got here, just a few minutes before _____ should awaken, I found both _____ and _____ dead. Juliet woke up, and I tried to get her to leave. I heard some _____ and was _____ away, but Juliet would not _____. It seems that she _____. This is the whole story, and Juliet's _____ also knew of the _____. If this is all my _____ let me be sacrificed to the full extent of the _____.

5. Describe the conclusion of the drama and explain how poetic Justice operates in the play.

6. What is Romeo and Juliet's tragic flaw? How does it lead to their destruction?

TIMELINE

The entire course of action in this drama took place within five days. Starting with the first street brawl which occurred early Sunday morning, trace the day by day events of the drama.

Learn the following words which appear frequently in the play. Those that appear familiar actually had different meanings in Shakespeare's time. See page 670 for definitions.

1. against
2. alack
3. an, and
4. anon
5. aye
6. but
7. e'en
8. e'er
9. fortnight - fourteen nights; two weeks
10. haply
11. happy
12. hence
13. hie
14. hither
15. marry
16. soft - wait
17. thither - there
18. whence
19. wherefore
20. wilt
21. withal
22. would

Vocabulary--Write the definition, part of speech, and a short sentence for each vocabulary word below.

1. pernicious

2. augmenting

3. grievance

4. transgression

5. heretics

6. cunning

7. procure

8. vile

9. predominant

10. intercession

11. sallow

12. waverer

13. lamentable

14. unwieldy

15. gallant

16. fray

17. martial
18. exile
19. eloquence
20. fickle
21. pensive
22. vial
23. enjoined
24. wayward
25. dismal
26. loathsome
27. pilgrimage
28. remnants
29. penury
30. haughty
31. sepulcher
32. ambiguities
33. scourge