

Romeo and Juliet

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While reading

Introduction and page viii

- 1 Complete the sentences with the following words:

exciting beautiful important famous
funny popular

- a *Romeo and Juliet* is one of the most love stories of all times.
- b It has parts which are very sad but also others which are very
- c The play takes place in the city of Verona and in the city of Mantua.
- d It is the story of two families in Verona, the Capulets and the Montagues.
- e The language that Shakespeare used to write the play is very
- f The play has to do with love but it also has fights.

Act 1

- 2 Are these right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- a Benvolio wants to stop the fight and Tybalt doesn't. ☐
- b Prince Escalus says that this is the fourth time that there has been a fight in the streets of Verona. ☐
- c Lord Montague doesn't know where Romeo is. ☐
- d Juliet isn't twelve yet. ☐
- e Lady Capulet became Juliet's mother when she was thirty. ☐
- f Peter, Lord Capulet's servant, doesn't know Romeo. ☐
- g Romeo goes to Lord Capulet's party because he wants to see Juliet. ☐

- 3 You are Romeo. Write a letter to Rosaline telling her how much you love her. Start with:

*Dear Rosaline,
I fell in love with you ...*

- 4 Lord Capulet invites you to his party! Put the words in order.

*a mask with you.
This evening,
There's going to be dancing
for all my friends.
and singing.
We'll have great fun.
I'm holding a party at home
Please, do bring*

Act 2

- 5 Who says this?

- a 'Mercutio laughs at things he doesn't understand.'
(.....)
- b 'I hate my name because it's your enemy.'
(.....)
- c 'The dark night will hide me from their eyes.'
(.....)
- d 'When people run too fast they fall over.'
(.....)
- e 'Oh no, really sir. I don't want any money.'
(.....)
- f 'These strong feelings of love don't bring happiness.'
(.....)

- 6 **Write.** On page 17, Tybalt sends a letter to Romeo's house inviting him to fight against him. Let's imagine that Romeo's father has received the letter. You are Romeo's father. Answer the letter.

- 7 **Write.** Today, Romeo would send Juliet an e-mail saying when and how they are getting married. You are Romeo. Write the e-mail.

Act 3 Scenes 1–2

- 8 **You are Mercutio.** Write your thoughts when you hear Romeo saying to Tybalt 'I love you better than you can imagine.'
- 9 **Write.** Benvolio lies to the Prince when he explains to him who started the fight. You are Benvolio. Write a note to the Prince but this time tell the truth.

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- 10 Work with another student.** Write the conversation between Lord and Lady Montague after the Prince tells them that Romeo has to leave Verona. Then act it out in class.

Act 3 Scenes 3–5

11 Who says what?

- a 'Banishment is more terrible than death.'
(.....)
- b 'The usual punishment for your crime is death.'
(.....)
- c 'My name is hateful to me. I'm going to kill myself.'
(.....)
- d 'She's shut up in her room tonight, full of her great sadness.'
(.....)
- e 'Tybalt has just died so we can't have a big party.'
(.....)
- f 'If I want to live, I have to leave now.'
(.....)
- g 'I'm sure you'll be happy in the second marriage. It's better than your first.'
(.....)

12 Complete the sentences

- a Juliet's m...r thinks that her d...er is still crying because of Tybalt's d...th but Juliet is crying because Romeo will have to l...e Verona.
- b Lady Capulet tells Juliet that her father is p...ing a very h...y day for her.
- c Early on T...y morning, the n...e Paris will marry her at St P...s Church.
- d Juliet gets very a...y with her father. She says she's not ready for m...ge.
- e Lord Capulet tells Juliet that he will never f...e her if she doesn't m...y Paris.
- f When Juliet's p...s leave, Juliet asks the N...e to help her.
- g The Nurse t...s Juliet to marry Paris b...e Romeo can't return to V...a.

13 Match and write the ideas in the correct order.

First, ...	Mercutio thought that Romeo was afraid of Tybalt.
Then ...	Mercutio got out his sword and told Tybalt to get his out too.
Next, ...	Romeo also came and talked to Tybalt very nicely.
So, ...	Tybalt arrived looking for Romeo.
In the end ...	Mercutio and Benvolio were walking in the streets.

Act 4

14 Put the sentences in the right order, 1–7.

- a Friar Laurence tells Juliet to go to bed alone. ☐
- b He explains to her that a cold feeling will run through her body. ☐
- c She has to drink the medicine from the bottle. ☐
- d Everybody will think that she is dead. ☐
- e They will carry her body to the vault. ☐
- f The Nurse can't stay with her. ☐
- g Her family will dress her in her best clothes. ☐

15 Write down and then act out the conversation that Lord Capulet and Lady Capulet have after finding out that Juliet is 'dead'.

- 16** An obituary is a notice of the death of a person in a newspaper. In pairs, write down Juliet's obituary.

Act 5

- 17 Write.** You're the doctor. Write a letter to a friend telling him/her about the strange visit that you received from a young man who wanted to buy poison.

18 In Act 5, who gives these things to whom?

- a news about Juliet
- b gold
- c poison
- d a letter for Romeo
- e a letter for Lord Montague

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Introduction

1 Complete with the right words from the box:

actions act actors characters scenes play

Shakespeare wrote *Romeo and Juliet* for 1 on a theatre stage. You can read the 2 in a group with other people. You can speak the words and bring the 3 to life. But you can have more fun if you 4 the play. There are wonderful love 5 The characters can show their feelings by their words and by their 6

Act 1

2 Who said the following? To whom?

- I'm only trying to keep the peace.
- Enemies of peace throw your swords to the ground!
- People have often seen him there early in the morning, looking very sad.
- Oh, tell me how I *can* forget her about her.
- My daughter is very young – not yet fourteen.
- I've already told her to come.
- I've never thought about marriage.
- My feet feel tied to the ground.
- I have an ugly face but this mask will hide it.

Act 2

3 Right (✓) or wrong (X)?

- To Romeo, Juliet's window is the west and she's the moon. ☐
- Juliet doesn't want Romeo to be a Montague. ☐
- Romeo hates his family because it's Juliet's enemy. ☐
- Juliet says that her love for Romeo is as deep and as endless as the sea. ☐
- Friar Laurence makes medicine and poison out of plants. ☐
- Romeo wants to get married to Juliet on Friday. ☐

Act 3 Scenes 1–2

4 Match the sentences 1–5 and the replies a–e.

- Romeo: 'Be brave, man. It can't be a very deep cut.'
- Benvolio: 'Let's go somewhere private, or discuss things calmly. Everybody is looking at us.'
- Nurse: 'Are you defending your cousin's murderer?'
- 'What do you want with me?'
- Juliet: 'Where are my father and mother?'
 - Mercurio: 'No, it isn't very deep, or very wide.'
 - Juliet: 'Do you want me to say bad things about my husband?'

- Mercurio: 'Fine. They can look. I'm not leaving.'
- Mercutio: 'To fight you. Take your sword out before I kill you.'
- Nurse: 'Crying by Tybalt's body.'

Act 3 Scenes 3–5

5 What happened first? Put the sentences in order.

- Romeo goes to the Friar's house.
- She gives Romeo Juliet's ring.
- Lord Capulet decides that the wedding day will be on Thursday.
- Romeo leaves for Mantua early in the morning.
- The Nurse arrives at the Friar's house too.
- Paris wants to marry Juliet as soon as possible.
- Romeo and Juliet spend their wedding night together.
- Lady Capulet goes to Juliet's room to tell her about her wedding.
- Lord Capulet tells his daughter that if she doesn't marry Paris she can't stay in his house.
- Juliet isn't happy about her parents' plans for her.

Act 4

6 Read these questions about Act 4 and choose YES or NO.

- Is the Friar happy about Paris's plan to marry Juliet?
YES NO
- Does Paris think Juliet is sad about Tybalt's death?
YES NO
- Does the Friar think Juliet is brave?
YES NO
- Will the Friar's medicine kill Juliet?
YES NO
- Will Paris think Juliet is dead in her bed?
YES NO
- Will the Friar tell Romeo when to return to Verona?
YES NO

Act 5

7 Why? Complete these sentences.

- Romeo breaks into the vault because ...
- Romeo kills himself because ...
- The Friar leaves the vault because ...
- Juliet kisses Romeo's mouth because ...
- Juliet picks up Romeo's knife because ...
- People run towards the vault because ...