

# YOUR **4-Step** CHECK-UP ON *ROMEO AND JULIET*

## **Step 1** PLOT AND CHARACTERS

Where are you in your *Romeo and Juliet* studies? Start by answering these quiz-style questions to check your knowledge of the plot and characters.

1. The play opens with a **Prologue**. What **tragic events** does it tell us will take place?
2. Who do **Juliet's mother and father** want her to **marry**?
3. Where does **Romeo** first see **Juliet**?
4. Who spots **Romeo** there and is **furious** he is present?
5. What does **Juliet** mean when she says, 'Wherefore art thou Romeo?' in Act 2 Scene 2?
6. Who does **Romeo** ask to **conduct his marriage** to **Juliet**?
7. Why does this person **agree to his request** despite his doubts?
8. Who does **Juliet** **confide in** about her forthcoming marriage to **Romeo**?
9. Who kills **Mercutio** in a savage fight? **How** does **Romeo** react?
10. What is the **Prince's punishment** for **Romeo**?
11. How does **Juliet** initially **misunderstand** the **Nurse's** news of a **death**?
12. Why do **Capulet and Lady Capulet** lose their temper with **Juliet**?
13. What does the **Friar** give **Juliet** to **drink** the night before her 'marriage' to **Paris**?
14. Why is **Juliet** **frightened** of taking the drink?
15. What **incorrect information** does **Romeo** find out before the **Friar's** letter to him arrives?
16. Why does **Romeo** visit an **apothecary**?
17. Who comes to the **tomb** and ends up fighting with (and being killed by) **Romeo**?
18. What does **Romeo** do when he believes **Juliet** to be dead?
19. Who tries to persuade **Juliet** to **leave the tomb** when she awakes?
20. What is the **response** of the **two families**, the **Montagues** and **Capulets**, at the end of the play?

## Step 2 LANGUAGE AND THEMES

How much do you know about the language and themes of the play?

1. Here are **five quotations** from the play. Can you identify **who** is speaking (and, where relevant, who they are speaking to)?
  - a) *'If he be married,/My grave is like to be my wedding bed'* (Act 1 Scene 5)
  - b) *'A plague a'both your houses!'* (Act 3 Scene 1)
  - c) *'disobedient wretch!/I tell thee what: get thee to church a'Thursday'* (Act 3 Scene 5)
  - d) *'I defy you, stars!'* (Act 5 Scene 1)
  - e) *'See what a scourge is laid upon your hate,/That heaven finds means to kill your joys with love'* (Act 5 Scene 3)
2. Read these **further quotations**. What **theme(s)** do you think they are linked to, or explore, e.g. Age and youth? Conflict? Why?
  - a) **Tybalt (to Benvolio):** *'What, drawn and talk of peace? I hate the word,/As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee.'* (Act 1 Scene 1)
  - b) **Juliet (to Romeo):** *'My bounty is as boundless as the sea,/My love as deep'* (Act 2 Scene 2)
  - c) **Friar (to Romeo):** *'Wisely and slow, they stumble that run fast'* (Act 2 Scene 3)
  - d) **Romeo (to Benvolio after killing Tybalt):** *'O, I am fortune's fool.'* (Act 3 Scene 1)
  - e) **Capulet (to Juliet):** *'And you be mine, I'll give you to my friend;/And you be not, hang, beg, starve, die in the streets...'* (Act 3 Scene 5)

## Step 3 WRITING SKILLS

A student has drafted this paragraph about Juliet's character.

Juliet is presented as incredibly brave in the night before her planned marriage to ..... Before taking the potion, she evokes the imagery of Tybalt fest'ring in his shroud and her own suffocation, waking up in the tomb. This is an example of how Shakespeare

.....

1. Copy out the paragraph and add in the **missing detail** in the **first sentence**
2. Put **quotation marks** around the quotation the student uses
3. **Finish** the paragraph, completing the **last sentence**, adding the **technique** you think is being used

## Step 4 CLOSE ANALYSIS

This scene comes from Act 3 Scene 5 of the play. Romeo is below in the garden, saying goodbye to Juliet after their first night of marriage.

**ROMEO**

I will omit no opportunity  
That may convey my greetings, love, to thee.

**JULIET**

O think'st thou we shall ever meet again?

**ROMEO**

I doubt it not, and all these **woes** shall serve  
For sweet **discourses** in our time to come.

**JULIET**

O God, I have an ill-divining soul!  
Methinks I see thee now, thou art so low,  
As one dead in the bottom of a tomb.  
Either my eyesight fails, or thou look'st pale.

**ROMEO**

And trust me, love, in my eye so do you:  
Dry sorrow drinks our blood. Adieu, adieu!

*Exit*

**JULIET**

O Fortune, Fortune, all men call thee **fickle**;  
If thou art fickle, what dost thou with him  
That is renown'd for faith? Be fickle, Fortune:  
For then I hope, thou wilt not keep him long,



### Glossary

**woes:** sorrows,  
troubles

**discourses:**  
conversations

**fickle:** frequently  
changing loyalties

**Why is this scene important? Write one to two paragraphs (between 75 and 100 words) about:**

- What it tells us about the plot, characters or relationships at this point
- Any themes or ideas which are suggested from the language
- How the scene could link with other scenes or parts of the play

**Well done for completing your 4-Step Check-Up on Romeo and Juliet!**

You'll find lots of help with studying and revising the play, including revision cards and practice tests, on our website [www.yorknotes.com](http://www.yorknotes.com)