

## *Romeo and Juliet* - Act I

### Prologue

1. Where does this story take place?
2. How does Shakespeare describe Romeo and Juliet?
3. What does that mean in terms of their final destiny? Who or what is in control?

### Act I

#### Scene 1

4. What two families are feuding?
5. What is Tybalt's opinion of peace? Line 69
6. How does this contrast with Benvolio's position?
7. What does the Prince say caused the three public brawls? (Line 86)
8. What did the prince say would happen if the two families fight in public again?
9. What does Romeo mean when he says in line 171, "Here's much to do with hate, but more to do with love?"
10. How does Romeo describe love in lines 187? What does he mean by this?

#### Scene 2

11. How old is Juliet?
12. What is Paris asking Old Capulet? What is Capulet's answer? 13. Who is Romeo in love with now? What have Benvolio and Romeo decided to do to see her? What are the motives of each?
14. What problems do you think might arise from crashing the Capulet's party?

#### Scene 3

15. How does Juliet demonstrate that she is a dutiful daughter?

#### Scene 4

16. Who is Queen Mab? What does Mercutio think she has done to Romeo?
17. In his speech starting on line 106, Romeo foreshadows that something terrible will happen at the party. Why does he continue to go?

#### Scene 5

18. What happens to Romeo in line 53?
19. What does Tybalt want to do when he discovers Romeo at the party? What does his Uncle Capulet have him do instead? Why?
20. What does Capulet's reaction say about the feud?
21. What is Romeo's reaction when he finds out that he just kissed Juliet, a Capulet?
22. What is Juliet's reaction when she discovers that Romeo is a Montague?

## Romeo and Juliet - Act II

### Chorus

1. According to the Chorus, what has happened to Romeo's old love?
2. What is Romeo and Juliet's major obstacle now?

### Scene 2

3. Why do Romeo and Juliet spend time discussing their names? Why are they important?
4. Who proposed first?
5. In lines 159 and 178, Juliet makes reference to owning a bird—one a falcon and the other a pet. How do these metaphors characterize the kind of relationship Juliet wants with Romeo? What does this say about Juliet's character?
6. How does Romeo respond?
7. How is this Juliet different from the one we first met while she was talking to her mother?
8. Line 184 is an example of what literary term?

### Scene 3

9. What is Friar Lawrence's first reaction to the news that Romeo wants to marry Juliet?
10. Why does the Friar agree to help the young couple?

### Scene 4

11. What has Tybalt done in the opening of this scene?
12. How does Mercutio describe Tybalt? What does he mean by "Prince of Cats?"
13. What was the main purpose of Romeo and the Nurse's conversation?

### Scene 5

14. How would you characterize the nurse?

### Scene 6

15. What foreshadowing is given at the beginning of this scene?
16. What event takes place in this scene?

## *Romeo and Juliet - Act II*

### I

#### Scene 1

1. Mercutio is mocking Benvolio at the opening of this scene. What is he saying and how do we know he is teasing?
2. Why does Romeo refuse to fight with Tybalt? What does he say in lines 66-70?
3. How does Mercutio respond to Romeo's answer?
4. After Tybalt stabs Mercutio, what does he say in line 88? Why do you think he says this?
5. How does Romeo blame Juliet for Mercutio's death?
6. What is Romeo saying when he calls himself "Fortune's Fool"?
7. Why does the Prince choose to exile Romeo instead of put him to death?

#### Scene 2

8. In her soliloquy, Juliet longs for night to come so she can be with Romeo. What does the audience know that Juliet doesn't at this point?
9. What foreshadowing does Juliet unconsciously offer concerning Romeo's death?
10. How does Juliet describe Romeo starting in line 73?
11. What does Juliet think is worse: Tybalt is dead or Romeo is banished?

#### Scene 3

12. What does the Nurse tell Romeo to do starting in line 89? 51. What reasons does the Friar give Romeo to be happy?

#### Scene 4

13. What decision does Lord Capulet make for Juliet?

#### Scene 5

14. Where does Juliet think she will next see Romeo?
15. How does Juliet trick her mother into thinking she hates Romeo beginning with line 94?
16. How does Lord Capulet respond when Juliet turns down the marriage proposal?
17. What advice does the Nurse give to Juliet? Why?

## *Romeo and Juliet* - Act IV

### Scene 1

1. According to Paris, why does Lord Capulet want Paris and Juliet to be married right away?
2. What is the Friar's solution to Juliet's problem?
3. When is Juliet supposed to drink the Friar's potion?
4. What is Romeo's part in the Friar's plan? How will he know of it?

### Scene 2

5. How has Juliet's father disrupted Juliet's and the Friar's plans? What do you foresee happening because of this?

### Scene 3

6. What are some of Juliet's fears about drinking the potion?

### Scene 5

7. What does the Friar mean when he says, "Yet nature's tears are reason's merriment"?
8. How does the Friar explain Juliet's supposed death in line 94?

## Act V

### Scene 1

1. What news does Balthasar bring Romeo?
2. What do you think Romeo means when he says, "I defy you, stars!"? (line 24) Hint: Think back to the Prologue.
3. Who does Romeo visit before he leaves? Why? What does he purchase?
4. Why doesn't the apothecary want to give it to Romeo? Why does he consent?
5. What poison does Romeo say he gave to the apothecary? Why does he think it is poison?
6. Why does Romeo call the poison a cordial which is a kind of medicine that was used to restore the heartbeat?

### Scene 2

7. Why wasn't Romeo given the Friar's letter?

### Scene 3

8. Why is Paris at Juliet's gravesite? 73. Why does Romeo say he is there? Why is he really there?
9. Why does Paris think Romeo is there?
10. Who or what does Romeo blame for Paris' death in line 82?

11. How does Romeo inadvertently remind us that Juliet is not yet dead?