Name:
Date:
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ROMEO AND JULIET STUDY GUIDE

PART ONE: LITERARY TERMS

Be able to define each term and apply each term to the play.

(1) **Tragedy:**

_____

_____

_____

In a Shakespearean tragedy, the main character, or _____, is _____

_____

_____.

However, this character also has one or more _____, that leads to his or her down fall. Although the events of a tragedy are often set in motion by an action of the tragic hero, _____ may also seem to play a role in the course that the events take.

(2) **Comic Relief:**

_____.

By providing contrast, comic relief helps the audience to

_____

_____.

(3) **Allusion:** _____

_____

For example, a writer might _____

_____.

Shakespeare's plays often contain allusions to _____

_____.

(4) **Soliloquy:** _____

The purpose is _____

_____.

Prologue

Scene: Verona; Mantua

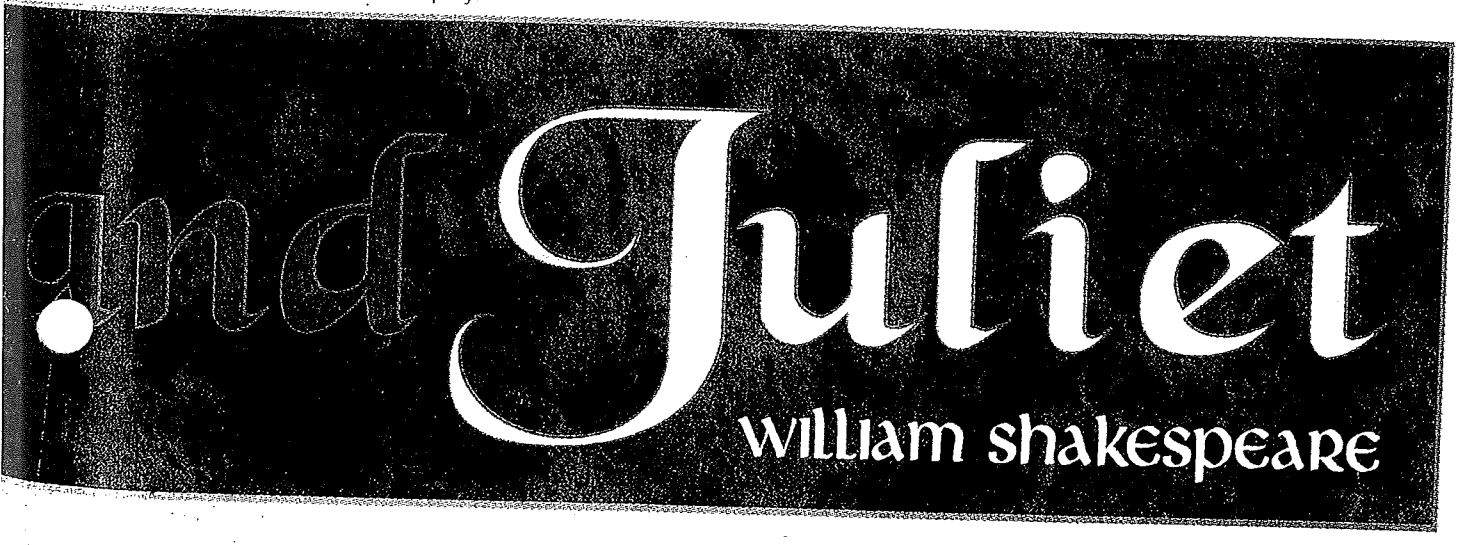
[*Enter* CHORUS]

CHORUS. Two households, both alike in dignity.[1]
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From ancient grudge break to new mutiny.[2]
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.[3]
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-crossed[4] lovers take their life;
Whose misadventured piteous overthrows[5]
Doth with their death bury their parents' strife.
The fearful passage of their death-marked love,
And the continuance of their parents' rage,
Which, but[6] their children's end, naught could remove,
Is now the two hours' traffic[7] of our stage;
The which if you with patient ears attend,
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.[8]
[*Exit.*]

1. **dignity:** High social rank.
2. **mutiny:** Violence.
3. **Where . . . unclean:** In which the blood of citizens stains citizens' hands.
4. **star-crossed:** Ill-fated by the unfavorable positions of the stars.
5. **Whose . . . overthrows:** Whose unfortunate, sorrowful destruction.
6. **but:** Except.
7. **two hours' traffic:** Two hours' business.
8. **What . . . mend:** What is not clear in this prologue we actors shall try to clarify in the course of the play.

CHARACTERS

CHORUS
ESCALUS, Prince of Verona
PARIS, a young count, kinsman to the Prince
MONTAGUE
CAPULET
AN OLD MAN, of the Capulet family
ROMEO, son to Montague
MERCUTIO, kinsman to the Prince and friend to Romeo
BENVOLIO, nephew to Montague and friend to Romeo
TYBALT, nephew to Lady Capulet
FRIAR LAURENCE, Franciscan
FRIAR JOHN, Franciscan
BALTHASAR, servant to Romeo
SAMPSON, servant to Capulet
GREGORY, servant to Capulet
PETER, servant to Juliet's nurse
ABRAM, servant to Montague
AN APOTHECARY
THREE MUSICIANS
AN OFFICER
LADY MONTAGUE, wife to Montague
LADY CAPULET, wife to Capulet
JULIET, daughter to Capulet
NURSE TO JULIET
CITIZENS OF VERONA, Gentlemen and Gentle women of both houses, Maskers, Torchbearers, Pages, Guards, Watchmen, Servants, and Attendants



Cast of Characters for Romeo and Juliet

Time: 14th Century

Place: Verona, in northern Italy

The Montagues

Lord Montague

Lady Montague

Romeo

Benvolio

Balthasar

Abram

The Capulets

Lord Capulet

Lady Capulet

Juliet

Tybalt

Nurse

Peter

Sampson and Gregory

Others

Prince Escalus

Mercutio

Friar Laurence

Friar John

Apothecary

Page

Chief Watchman

Three Musicians

An Officer

Citizens and such…

Name_____

Pd._____

ROMEO AND JULIET: Act I Reading and Study Guide

I. VOCABULARY: Be able to define the following words and understand them when they appear in the play.

adversary

_____

boisterous

_____

nuptial

_____

II. LITERARY TERMS: Be able to define each term and apply each term to the play.

aside_____

_

Example: _____

blank verse _____

characterization_____

conflict _____

External:

1. _____ vs. _____
2. _____ vs. _____
3. _____ vs. _____

Internal:

4. _____ vs. _____

Example: _____

couplet_____

epithet_____

Example: _____

foil_____

Example: _____

foreshadowing_____

Example: _____

iambic pentameter_____

metaphor_____

Example: _____

simile_____
Example: _____

pun_____
Example: _____

III. Questions: answer the following questions.

Prologue:

1. In what city does this play take place?

2. Why are Romeo and Juliet called "star-cross'd lovers"?

Scene 1:

3. Who is fighting at the beginning of the first scene?

4. Who tries to break up the fighting?

5. What threat does the Prince make to Lord Montague and Lord Capulet?

6. Benvolio and Montague describe the way Romeo has been acting. What do they have to say about him?

7. Why is Romeo so sad? Explain.

8. What is Benvolio's advice to Romeo?

Scene 2:

9. Why does Capulet think it will be easy for Montague and him to keep the peace?

10. What does Paris ask about Capulet?

11. What is Capulet's first answer?

12. A bit later Capulet appears to change his mind about Paris' question. What does he then tell Paris?

13. What problem does the servant have?

14. What is the name of the woman Romeo loves?

15. What do Romeo and Benvolio decide to do?

Scene 3:

16. How old is Juliet?

17. When Lady Capulet asks Juliet how she feels about marriage, what is Juliet's answer?

18. Following Juliet's answer, what does Lady Capulet then tell Juliet?

Scene 4:

19. According to Mercutio, who or what is Queen Mab, and what does she or it do?

20. What does Mercutio say about dreams?

21. What is Romeo's mood at the end of this scene? Explain.

Scene 5:

22. What does Romeo think of Juliet the first time he sees her?

23. How does Tybalt recognize Romeo?

24. When Tybaltt is ready to seize Romeo and throw him out of the party, what does Capulet say to Tybalt?

25. Explain what the conversation is between Romeo and Juliet.

26. How does Romeo find out Juliet's last name?

27. How does Juliet find out Romeo's last name?