

STUDY QUESTIONS FOR ROMEO AND JULIET

The following questions should be used to guide you in your reading of the play and to insure that you recognize important parts of the play. As you read independently, try to answer the questions as best you can and plan to come to class seeking the answers you could not get on your own. During our class discussions, *be sure to record the answers*. It is your responsibility to ask what you do not understand.

*These lines may be on a test. Be able to identify the speaker, describe the circumstances, and be able to interpret or paraphrase the quotation.

Words in **bold** print are vocabulary words that may also appear on a test.

PROLOGUE

1. Who speaks the Prologue?
 - a. **The Narrator also known as The Chorus**

2. **What is the purpose of the Prologue?**
 - a. **To give the audience a small glimpse of the play and to hook the audience/reader.**

3. **In what poetic form is this Prologue?**
 - a. **Iambic Pentameter**

- *4. Highlight lines 5 and 6. Explain the importance of these two lines.
 - a. **Tells the reader that this play is a tragedy and the lovers will die, and to 'hook' the audience into learning more about these two lovers.**

5. Why does Shakespeare tell us how the story is going to end?
 - a. **To 'hook' the reader into learning more about the characters.**

6. What themes are established in the Prologue?

- a. Star-crossed lovers
- b. Love found and lost
- c. Death
- d. Revenge

ACT 1 SCENE 1

1. How does Shakespeare start the play so that he gains the attention of the “groundlings?”

He, Shakespeare, would put in humor and gestures that the laypeople (groundlings) would understand.

***2. Highlight lines 58-59. Our first introduction to Benvolio comes when he says these words. What do they reveal about his character?**

a. Benvolio states that “I do but keep the peace. Put up thy sword or manage it to part these men with me.” In this line, Benvolio is speaking to Tybalt and telling him to either put away his sword and if not, then to use his (Tybalt) sword to help him (Benvolio) break up the current fight between the servants.

These lines show that Benvolio is interested in keeping the peace and the laws of his town.

***3. Highlight lines 64-65. Our first impression of Tybalt occurs in these lines. What do we learn about his character?**

a. Tybalt states in return to Benvolio: “What, drawn, and talk of peace? I hate the word. As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee. Have at thee, coward!”

These lines show that Tybalt is the opposite in character to Benvolio; he (Tybalt) is quick to anger and quick to draw his sword to fight.

*4. Highlight lines 90-91. What is the tone of the Prince's speech? In these lines he makes a new decree. What is it, and why is it important?

a. The prince declares that the next person to draw his sword to fight or the next person to kill someone in a fight will be put to death. The prince and the people of Verona are tired of the feud between the Capulet's and the Montague's and since these two families are incapable of ending the feud by on their own, the prince declares 'upon the penalty of death if you disturb the streets again'. This is important because it help to lay the foundation to why the two lovers are doomed.

5. When we first see Romeo he shows all the signs of a Petrarchan Lover—someone who is in love with the idea of being in love. How does Romeo act (lines 125-136)?

He is depressed because he is out of favor with Rosaline. He, Romeo, is suffering from unrequited love.

6. When describing his feelings to Benvolio, Romeo uses Oxymorons—pairs of contradictory words in lines 170-177 and 184-188. Why does he speak in contradictions and paradoxes?

He wants to express his conflicting emotions, so the literary device of the oxymoron helps describe his opposing feelings.

We then learn that Romeo is suffering from **Unrequited Love—He loves someone who does not love him back**. What suggestion does Benvolio make to Romeo to help him get over is unrequited love for Rosaline (lines 221-223)?

Benvolio suggests that there are other women in the world and others that are more charming and more beautiful than Rosaline.

ACT 1 SCENE 2

1. In this scene Lord Capulet talks to Paris about marrying his daughter Juliet. What two reasons does he give for not wanting Juliet to marry at this time (lines 8-14)?

1. Juliet is too young
2. Girls that marry too early are quickly marred. Meaning: they become bitter and angry for marrying and being made mothers too early.

***2. Highlight line 16-19. On what condition will Lord Capulet agree to Juliet's marriage with Paris?**

If Paris comes to the party and looks at all the other girls there and if he can find no other girl there he is more interested in, then he, Lord Capulet, will give his consent to marry Juliet.

3. What does this reveal about Lord Capulet's love for his daughter?

This shows that he loves his daughter very much and wants to ensure her happiness with the right man that truly loves her. This also shows that he is overprotective as she is the only child he has left and wants to make sure that she will not be mistreated in anyway.

4. From the servant who cannot read we learn that Rosaline, with whom Romeo believes he is in love, will be at the Capulet party. Why does this excite Benvolio? What is his plan (lines 84-89)?

This allows Benvolio to show Romeo that Rosaline is not the only woman in the world. The plan is to go to the party to see Rosaline, but also to show Romeo that there are other girls there in the world to choose from that are better than her.

***5. Highlight lines 86-89. Explain Benvolio's analogy:**

Benvolio:

Tut, man, one fire burns out another's burning;
One pain is lessened by another's anguish;
Turn giddy, and be holp by backward turning
One desperate grief curses with another's languish.
Take thou some new infection to thy eye,
And the rank poison of the old will die.

*holp means helped

Benvolio is still trying to convince Romeo that the best way he can be helped in his love for Rosaline is to find someone else. Benvolio's analogy compares love to a disease that can only be cured by another disease.

6. Why does Romeo agree to go to the party (lines 102-103)?

He agrees to attend when he finds out that Rosaline will be there.

Romeo tells Benvolio,
I'll go along, no such sight to be shown,
But to rejoice in splendor of mine own.

Translation: I will go to the party, but there is no other girl I am interested in....I go only to see Rosaline.

7. What coincidence takes place in this scene? Explain what theme is being developed.

The party is to take place in the house of the Capulets. Theme of man v man is developing. We already know that these two families are enemies and that the Prince has already decreed that the next person to cause a fight will pay with their life. To go to this party will cause conflict.

ACT 1 SCENE 3

In this scene Lady Capulet is informing Juliet and her nurse of Count Paris' proposal of marriage.

1. What is the nurse's relationship with Juliet?

a. Nurse is a mother-figure to Juliet.

3. How would you describe the nurse's personality?

a. Witty, unrefined, boisterous, gossip, loving, kind

*3. Highlight lines 62-63. What is the nurse's one wish for Juliet and why?

To be happy in love with a husband that is well off and has status

4. When Lady Capulet asks Juliet how she feels about being married, what is Juliet's answer (line 67), and what does it reveal about her character?

"It is an honor that I dream not of"

Translation, It is an honor I dare not hope for.

It reveals that Juliet is very wise and chooses her words carefully as not to offend her mother. She knows that it is her duty to be married, and may not have a choice as to what type of man her parents choose for her. From her answer, we can amuse that Juliet has not thought of marriage previously and is a little apprehensive at the thought.

5. The nurse and Lady Capulet are both excited and pleased by Paris' proposal but for different reasons.

The nurse says Paris is "a man of wax" and at the end of the scene encourages Juliet to "Go, girl, seek happy nights to happy days." What does the nurse see in Paris, and what does it reveal about her attitude toward love and marriage?

A man of wax means: a man so perfect he could be a wax statue. During this time period, sculptors used wax figures as models for their works. In other words, Paris was extremely handsome. Nurse views love as something physical while Juliet's mother is more concerned with keeping status.

6. Lady Capulet's lines 82-95 compose a **conceit**. A conceit is an extended, exaggerated comparison or metaphor between two unlike things—in this case, between Paris and a book that needs to be bound. What does Lady Capulet see in Paris that would make him a good match for Juliet? What is Lady Capulet's attitude toward love and marriage?

Lady Capulet view marriage as a way to keep status and wealth. Being in love has little or no consequence in life, Paris has all the attributes for a good husband in Lady Capulet's eyes. He is well off and financially stable and holds a high title and status.

***7. Highlight lines 98-100. Explain Juliet's answer to her mother when asked if she can love Paris. What does it reveal about her knowledge of being in love? What is her attitude toward love and marriage?**

I'll look to like, if looking liking move,
But no more deep will I endart mine eye
Than your consent gives strength to make it fly.

Translation: I'll look at him with the intention of linking him, if simply looking can make me like him.

Juliet wants to please her parents and is very witty and knows how to choose her words wisely.

Juliet wants to feel something when she looks at her husband, she wants to be in love.

ACT 1 SCENE 4

***1. Highlight lines 106-111. Why does Romeo feel uneasy about going to the party? What dream-like premonition has he had?**

I fear, too early; for my mind misgives
Some consequence, yet hanging in the stars,
Shall bitterly begin his fearful date
With this night's revels and expire the term
Of despised life, closed in my breast,
By some vile forfeit, of untimely death.
But he that hath the steerage of my course
Direct my sail! On, lusty gentleman!

He is about to go into the home of his family's enemy 'The Capulets'. He has a dream-like premonition that if he continues on that path to the party that the consequence of that decision will be his untimely death. In the end, Romeo tells the person that holds his fate, "but he that hath the steerage of my course direct my sail!" meaning that he accepts whatever fate may come out of this decision and embraces it.

2. Comment on this speech in terms of the Elizabethan attitude toward the stars and astrology.

During the Elizabethan Era, people relied quite heavily on astrology and were very superstitious. They believed in fate and what the stars had to say about their lives and the direction it was heading. Therefore, Romeo's dream-like premonition shows that he is aware of the stars and what his future may hold, but continues against the warning.

3. What decision does Romeo make in lines 112-113, and what is the thematic importance of this decision?

To continue on his current course and go to the Capulet party. This is thematically important because it corresponds back to what the Prologue had to say about two lovers that take their lives. This decision helps to progress the journey of tragedy.

ACT 1 SCENE 5

1. We learn from Romeo's soliloquy (a speech delivered while the speaker is alone, calculated to inform the audience of what is passing in the character's mind) that he is struck by love at first sight when he sees Juliet at the party. Paraphrase Romeo's speech (lines 43-53). To what does he compare Juliet?

A rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear
A snowy dove trooping with crows

Paraphrase: O, she teaches the torches to burn brightly! It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night like a rich jewel in an African's ear—beauty too rich for use, it is too dear for earth! The lady over there appears much prettier than her friends; she looks like a snowy dove surrounded by crows. The dance is done, so I'll watch where she stands and, by touching her hand, she will make my rough hand blessed. Did my heart ever love until now? My eyes will swear that I never saw true beauty until this night.

2. How does this speech about his love for Juliet compare to his speeches about being in love with Rosaline?

It is very similar in thought and in pattern of his desire of love. Although, Romeo mentions that he has never been in love until this moment; he still breeds resemblance to the Petrarchan lover that has been since the beginning of the play.

This is what Romeo says when he first sees Julie:

O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!
It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night
Like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's Ear-
Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear!
So shows a snowy dove trooping with crows
As yonder lady o'er her fellow shows.
The measure done, I'll watch her place of stand.
And, touching hers, make blessed my rude hand.
Did my heart love till now? Forswear it, sight!
For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.

Translation: O, she teaches the torches to burn brightly! It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night like a rich jewel in an African's ear-beauty too rich for use, it is too dear for earth! The lady over there appears much prettier than her friends; she looks like a snowy dove surrounded by crows. The dance is done, so I'll watch where she stands and, by touching her hand, she will make my rough hand blessed. Did my heart ever love until now? My eyes will swear that I never saw true beauty until this night.

This is what Romeo says about Rosaline:

When the devout religion of mine eye
Maintains such falsehood, then turn tears to fires.
And these, who often drown'd, could never die,
Transparent heretics, be burnt for liars!
One fairer than my love? The all-seeing sun
Ne'er saw her match since first the world begun.

Translation: When my eyes support such falsehood, then may my tears turn to fires. And even though my eyes have cried drowning tears, they should burn if they lie and see anyone other than Rosaline. Someone fairer than she my love? The all-seeing sun never saw her equal since the world first began.

- **If you notice that both speeches, refer back to the motif of light as well as the eyes. In the speech regarding Juliet, he personifies his eyes by saying that his eyes will swear that they have never seen love until now. Although, in the lines regarding Rosaline, just hours prior to meeting Juliet; Romeo swears that his eyes will burn if they lie upon anyone else other than Rosaline.**
- **Romeo also compares Juliet to the sun as he will do again to Juliet during the Balcony scene.**

3. Tybalt recognizes Romeo's voice and tries to start a fight. What two reasons does Lord Capulet give for stopping him (lines 65-69)?

1. Romeo's reputation says that he is a virtuous and well governed youth. I would not for the wealth of all this town do him wrong here in my house.
2. He does not want a fight in his home with his guests.

*4. Highlight lines 90-91. What threat does Tybalt make as he agrees to withdraw?

That Romeo will pay for this insult and intrusion.

5. In lines 92-105 Romeo and Juliet speak to each other. Their lines form a sonnet. Paraphrase the lines of the sonnet.

If I profane with my unworhiest hand
 This holy shrine, the gentle fine is this:
 My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
 To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.
 Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,
 Which mannerly devotion shows in this;
 For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,
 And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.
 Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?
 Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer.

O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do!
They pray; grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.
Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake
Then move not while my prayer's effect I take.

Paraphrase: Good pilgrim, you do too strongly wrong your hand which has only shown mannerly devotion; for statues have hands that are touched by pilgrims' hands, and by placing palm to palm is the way holy pilgrims kiss. Do not saints have lips, and holy pilgrims too? Yes, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer. O, then, dear saint, let my lips do what hands do! Since hands pray, may you grant my prayer, lest my faith turn to despair. Though they answer prayers, saints do not move. Then do not move while I see the effect of my prayers,

6. Dramatic Irony is when the audience knows something the characters do not. What is ironic about Juliet's line 134?

Go ask his name. If he is married, my grave is likely to be my wedding bed.

Dramatic Irony: the audience knows that Juliet is a Capulet and Romeo is a Montague. Although, Romeo is not married, he is her sworn enemy.

ACT 2 SCENE 2

1. Juliet is on the balcony outside her bedroom but cannot hear the words that Romeo says to himself as he looks at her from the hiding place below. Answer the following questions about lines 2-25:

- a. Romeo repeats the light and dark images he introduced when he saw Juliet for the first time. Why does Romeo compare Juliet to the sun?
 - a. The sun is bright like his love for Juliet. Juliet has given him life and must the same way as the sun gives live.
- b. Why does he want the sun to kill the envious moon?
 - a. The moon is already sick and pale with grief that Juliet is far more beautiful than the moon.
- c. Why is the moon envious?
 - a. That Juliet casts light like the sun and is more beautiful than the moon and the night.
- d. Why does he compare Juliet's eyes to the stars?

- a. Stars give out light and guide travelers on their way. For Romeo, Juliet's eyes beacons of light that help him find his way out of darkness.
 - b. Stars also play a motif in the play as the use of stars help determine fate.
- e. Why is this comparison to stars another example of foreshadowing?**
- a. The prologue has already determined that Romeo and Juliet are star-crossed lovers; this comparison further shows how the stars are not aligned for these two. The stars are guiding Romeo to his untimely death through love.

*2. Highlight lines 33-36. Juliet is still unaware that Romeo is nearby. Paraphrase these lines.

O Romeo, Romeo! Why are you Romeo? Deny your father and refuse you name! Or, if you will not, be my sworn love, and I'll no longer be a Capulet.

*3. Highlight lines 43-44. Paraphrase lines 38-49. What is Juliet's attitude toward the feud that has separated the two families?

It is only your name that is my enemy. You are yourself, regardless of your name. What is a Montague? It is not a hand, not a foot, nor arm, nor face, nor any other part belonging to a man. O, be some other name! What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. So would Romeo, if he were not called Romeo, still retain that dear perfection which he owns without that name. Romeo, drop your name, and exchange that name, which is no part of you, for all of myself.

4. After Juliet asks some pertinent questions (lines 58-84), she realizes that Romeo has overheard her intimate thoughts about him. How does her attitude change in lines 85-105? What is she worried about?

She is embarrassed that Romeo has overheard her thoughts and feelings

5. Why does Juliet object to Romeo's swearing on the moon (lines 109-111)?

The moon is not constant and ever changing. Therefore, if he compares his love to the moon and swears by it, then his love will be fickle.

6. Juliet speaks of her fears in lines 116-119. Explain.

Translation of lines: Well, do not swear. Although I am happy with you, I have no joy in this contract tonight. It is too rash, too ill-advised, too sudden, too like the lightning, which ceases to be almost before one can say, 'It lightens.'" Sweet, good night! This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath, may prove a beautiful flower when we meet next. Good night! May as sweet a repose and rest come to your heart as I have within my breast!

Juliet is concerned that this 'new found love' is moving too quickly and sudden for her. She wants to slow down and wants to see if Romeo's love is indeed true, as the night changes

ACT 2 SCENE 3

1. Friar Laurence is introduced in a lengthy soliloquy in which he philosophizes about nature and about mankind. Paraphrase his speech (lines 7-30).

The grey-eyed morning smiles on the frowning night, speckling the eastern clouds with streaks of light, and darkness staggers away like a drunkard from the day's path and Titan's fiery wheels. Now, before the sun advances and his burning eye cheers the days and dries night's wet dew to dryness, I must fill up this willow basket with harmful weed and precious-juiced flowers. Earth is both the mother and the tomb of nature. Life comes from her burial mounds, and from her womb children of various kinds come to suck on her natural bosom. Many have many excellent virtues; no one is without some, and yet all are different. Great is the powerful grace that lies in plants, herbs, stones, and their true qualities, for nothing is so vile that lives on earth that it does not give to the earth some special good: Similarly, nothing is so good that, twisted from its intended use, will not revolt from its true purpose and cause an evil. Virtue itself can turn vice, being

misapplied; and vice sometime's by action can be beneficial. Within the small rind of this small flower, both senses, but when tasted, can slay all senses and the heart. Two such opposing forces exist in men as well as herbs-that is, both good and evil-and where the evil dominates, soon the worm, death, eats up that plant.

2. What does Romeo tell Friar Laurence, and what does he want from the Friar (lines 43-64)?

He tells Friar Laurence that he is in love with Juliet and wants to marry her. Romeo requests that Friar Laurence marries them.

3. What is Friar Laurence's reaction to hearing of Romeo's new love (lines 65-80)?

He is upset with Romeo that he can change his love so quickly and easily.

*4. Highlight lines 89-92. What reason does Friar Laurence give for agreeing to marry Romeo and Juliet?

Friar Laurence agrees to marry them in hopes that this might end the feud between the families.

ACT 2 SCENE 4

1. This scene shows us more of the nurse's character as she trades quips and puns with Mercutio. What **malapropisms (an inappropriateness of speech resulting from the use of one word for another which resembles it)** does the nurse use (line 115)?

A sail, A sail: calling the nurse fat

My fan, Peter. Good Peter use the fan to hid her face, for her fan's the fairer face of the two: Here Nurse requests her fan and Mercutio says that the fan is better looking than the Nurse and that the fan should be used to hide the Nurse's ugly face

2. What message does Romeo urge the nurse to give to Juliet (lines 163-166)?

To commend him to Juliet and to come to Friar Laurence cell so that they can get married.

ACT 2 SCENE 5

1. Juliet is very impatient to hear news from Romeo (lines 1-17). What images does she use in her soliloquy to express this?

O' she is lame!

Wind-swift cupid wings

Had she affections and warm youthful blood

But old folks, may feign as they were dead

Unwieldy, slow, heavy, and pale as lead

2. The nurse knows Juliet is impatient, but she keeps putting her off. Why does the nurse do this?

To tease her and be playful

3. Why does the Nurse agree to help Juliet marry Romeo?

Because she wants to see Juliet happy in love

ACT 3 SCENE 1

1. Why do you think Tybalt approaches Mercutio and Benvolio and wants a “word” with one of them (line 36)?

Tybalt is looking for Romeo

2. Mercutio tries to provoke Tybalt to fight (lines 37-38). Why doesn't Tybalt want to fight him (line 53)?

Tybalt is not interested in fighting anyone other than Romeo.

3. After Tybalt insults Romeo, Romeo responds with lines 59-62. Explain his lines. What is the "reason" Romeo has for ignoring the insult?

Romeo has more 'reasons' to love Tybalt because Romeo is now married to Juliet. This would make Tybalt family and he has no interest in harming those that are family and are part of Juliet.

***4. Highlight lines 65-69. Explain the meaning of the lines and the dramatic irony of the situation.**

Romeo: Tybalt, the reason that I have to love thee
Doth much excuse the appertaining rage
To such a greeting. Villian am I none.
Therefore farewell. I see thou knowest me not.

Dramatic Irony: The audience knows that Romeo and Juliet are married and therefore Romeo and Tybalt are now family.

5. Why does Romeo's answer to Tybalt's insults upset Mercutio? What does he think Romeo is doing (line 70)?

Romeo: I do protest I never hurt you; in fact, I love you better than you can know, until I can speak the reason of my love. So, good Capulet, whose name I cherish as dearly as my own, be satisfied.

Mercutio thinks Romeo a coward and dishonorable to speak this way to Tybalt and tells him that he will fight in his place.

6. Romeo tries to stop Mercutio and Tybalt from fighting by reasoning with them (lines 82-85). Paraphrase what he says.

Draw, Benvolio: beat down their weapons. Gentleman, for shame! Stop this outrage! Tybalt, Mercutio, the Prince has expressly forbidden this fighting in Verona's streets. Hold, Tybalt! Good Mercutio!

7. Even when he is dying, Mercutio continues to joke and to make puns. Explain the pun he makes in lines 92-99.

Ay, ay a scratch, a scratch: it is only a scratch

No, 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church door; but 'tis enough, 'twill serve. Ask me tomorrow and you shall find me a grave man.

Here Mercutio is down playing how hurt he really is: He says that his wound is not so deep as a well and not as wide as a church door, but it is deep and wide enough. This means that it is just deep and wide enough to cause issues. Mercutio uses a play on words with the word 'grave' ask for me tomorrow and you shall find me a grave man meaning that by tomorrow he will be dead and in his grave.

*8. Highlight lines 102-103. Mercutio repeats the following line (106) three times and then adds the next line. Explain what he means:

“A plague O’ both your houses!
They have made worm’s meat of me.”

Mercutio curses both families for their fighting and strife. He feels that because of their feud is the reason why he will die. He blames both families for his death.

9. What does Romeo mean when he says lines 119-120?

From this day’s black fate other black days follow; this merely begins the sorrows which others must end.

Romeo means that this death will merely start more suffering and sorrows that other people must end.

He feels that this will just continue the suffering the feuding between families.

10. After Mercutio dies, why does Romeo decide to kill Tybalt instead of accepting Mercutio’s death as an unfortunate accident?

He feels that he made the wrong choice allowing Tybalt to behave the way he did. Tybalt had only been a family member for an hour while Mercutio has been a lifelong friend. Romeo feels that his love for Juliet had made him soft and unable to fight.

*11. Highlight line 132. What does Romeo mean?

Romeo means that either Romeo and Tybalt or both will die today and keep Mercutio’s soul company.

*12. Highlight lines 176-177. What reasoning does Lady Capulet use in begging the Prince for vengeance for Tybalt's death?

I beg for justice which you, Prince, must give. Romeo slew Tybalt; Romeo must not live

*13. Highlight lines 180-183. What is Lord Montague's reasoning in his attempt to persuade the Prince not to kill Romeo for killing Tybalt?

Lord Montague says that Mercutio was a friend that was killed by Tybalt. Romeo did what the law allows when Tybalt took the life of Mercutio. This fight was different since Mercutio was neither a Capulet nor a Montague, and therefore it was outside of the decree of the Prince.

14. What is the Prince's decree, and what are the reasons he gives for making it (lines 182-185)?

Romeo will be banished and not killed because he killed Tybalt and Tybalt killed Mercutio.

ACT 3 SCENE 2

1. In lines 37-68 the nurse confuses Juliet as she tells Juliet of the fight. What misconception does Juliet make?

That Tybalt killed Romeo

*2. Highlight line 73. When Juliet receives news of Tybalt's death, what is her first reaction?

She is upset at Romeo for killing Tybalt and curses his name.

*3. Highlight Juliet's lines 90-92. When the nurse agrees with Juliet, Juliet has a different reaction to Romeo's killing of Tybalt. Explain.

Juliet feels that she has betrayed Romeo as his wife and that she should have defended him. She feels that she has only been his wife for 3 short hours and has already done it wrong.

4. How does the scene end?

The Nurse will find Romeo and bring him to her so that they can have their honeymoon.

ACT 3 SCENE 3

*1. Highlight line 12. What is Romeo's reaction when he learns that he has been banished?

He is upset would rather die than be banished from seeing his Juliet.

2. From the beginning of the play, Romeo acts impulsively. In what way is he still impulsive in this scene (lines 102-108)?

He attempts to commit suicide in Friar Laurence's cell.

3. Friar Laurence tells Romeo to count his blessings. What are they (line 135-140)?

The Friar tells Romeo that the Prince did not decide to kill him, but rather banish him.

4. Explain Friar Laurence's plan (lines 146-154).

Romeo should leave to Mantua and remain there until the Friar sends word for him to come back.

ACT 3 SCENE 5

Questions begin with Lady Capulet's entrance, line 68.

1. Lady Capulet misunderstands Juliet's sadness, and Juliet does not want her to know what has happened between Romeo and Juliet. What does Juliet say about Tybalt and Romeo to keep the truth from her mother (lines 67-102)?

Juliet makes a play on the word 'dead' and says it in a way that is can be mistaken for how she truly feels:

Indeed I will never be satisfied with Romeo until I see him-----dead---is my poor heart for a troubled kinsman.

2. What is Juliet's response when she is told the news that she is to marry Paris (lines 116-123)? How has she changed since Act 1?

Juliet is upset and says that she will not be a happy bride and refuses to marry Paris. This is different because she is not defying the wishes of her parents unlike in Act 1 where Juliet was more agreeable to marry the man her parents had chosen for her.

3. What is her mother's reaction to Juliet's response (line 124 and lines 139-140)?

She wants Juliet to say this to her father and see how he reacts

*4. Highlight lines 190-194. What is Lord Capulet's response to Juliet's refusal to marry Paris?

If Juliet does not marry, he will disown her and throw her out of the house for being ungrateful.

5. What does the Nurse advise Juliet to do (lines 212-225)? What is her reasoning?

To marry Paris and forget Romeo, since Romeo is banished he might as well be dead and she needs to go on with her life.

7. After the Nurse leaves and Juliet is alone, what does Juliet decide to do (lines 240-243)?

Juliet decides to go to Friar Laurence to find a remedy and if he cannot help, she will kill herself.

ACT IV SCENE 1

1. Why is Paris visiting Friar Laurence?

Paris is there to discuss his upcoming marriage to Juliet.

2. Juliet tells Friar Laurence what she will do if the wedding to Paris cannot be avoided. Paraphrase lines 50-67.

Juliet tells the Friar that she will kill herself if she has to get married.

*3. Highlight lines 68-70. Paraphrase lines 68-76. The Friar says he has thought of a way out, but what would it require?

Juliet will have to be willing to take a potion that makes herself look dead.

4. What is Juliet's answer to the Friar in her effort to convince him that she will do anything to avoid the marriage with Paris (lines 76-88)?

She would rather leap off the battlements of a tower

Become a thief

Dwell with serpents

Chain herself to roaring bears

Be shut up nightly in a tomb covered with the bones of a dead man.

5. Summarize Friar Laurence's plan as described in lines 89-120.

Juliet is to go home and tell her parents that she will marry Paris. She is to ask the Nurse not to sleep in the room with her, and she is to take the potion. The Friar will send a letter to Romeo detailing the plan and he will be there waiting for her when she wakes up three days later. She and Romeo will leave and run away together to live their lives in peace.

ACT 5 SCENE 1

1. **What premonition does Romeo have at the beginning of this scene (lines 1-11)?**

Romeo dreamt that Juliet came and found me dead.

2. **What news does Balthasar bring? How does this disrupt the Friar's plan?**

Balthasar tells Romeo that Juliet is dead. This disrupts the Friar's plan because Balthasar does not know that Juliet is not really dead and now Romeo believes Juliet is dead and now he wants to die as well.

***3. Highlight line 24. Paraphrase. Why is this a brazen thing to say?**

After hearing the Juliet is dead, Romeo replies: Is it true? Then I defy you, fate!

This is brazen because during this time period, people were very superstitious and relied heavily on astrology and destiny. To tell fate that Romeo will chose his own course is equal to cursing the name of a higher power.

4. **What does Romeo decide to do after he hears Balthasar's story (lines 34-57)?**

Romeo decides to go to the Apothecary to purchase a poison so that he can die next to Juliet.

ACT 5 SCENE 2

1. What story does Friar John tell Friar Laurence as explanation as to why he could not deliver the letter to Romeo?

Friar John was not able to deliver the letter to Romeo because he was shut up in a house when he was passing through a town because the townspeople thought he was carrying the plague.

ACT 5 SCENE 3

***4. Highlight lines 91-96. What does Romeo notice about Juliet? Explain the dramatic irony.**

Romeo notices that Death has not defeated her that she looks just as beautiful as if she were alive. The dramatic irony is that the audience/reader knows that Juliet is not really dead.

*5. Highlight line 167. What does Juliet realize about the situation?

She realizes that Romeo drunk poison to die and that there is none left for her.

*6. Highlight lines 169-170. Explain the lines.

Juliet hopes that by kissing Romeo some of that poison will be left on his lips for her, she then realizes that he is still warm and therefore just died.