

Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet

ACT ONE

VOCABULARY

I, i, 87	pernicious	148	importuned	241	passing
120	fray	153	sounding	ii, 16	gentle
123	abroad	153	discovery	iii, 63	Marry
127	to make	162	shrift	iv, 29	visage
129	affections	195	vexed	69	time out o'mind
135	to augment	213	proof	85	anon

QUESTIONS

- i] 1. List at least four words or phrases from the prologue to Act I that indicate that the outcome of the play will be tragic. [1-14]
2. Write down Benvolio's first action in the play [66-67]. Write down Tybalt's [68-69]. In one sentence, explain the difference in their characters as these two introductions reveal them.
3. Remember what kinds of people were in Shakespeare's audience, and list at least two reasons why he chose to begin the play with a street brawl.
4. Restate Prince Escalus's declared penalty pronounced on the Montagues and the Capulets and explain why he regards the street quarrel as more than a casual disturbance of the peace. [84-106]
5. In one sentence, explain Romeo's attitude toward the family quarrel as it is reflected in his words about the street fight [176-77].
6. Explain what Benvolio tells Romeo to do about Rosaline [230-31, I, ii, 85-90].
- ii] 7. Paraphrase the advice Capulet gives Paris about Juliet [30-33].
- iii] 8. Explain Juliet's reaction to her mother's news that Paris wants to marry her [97-99]
- iv] 9. Romeo introduces the subject of dreams [49], and Mercutio launches into his Queen Mab speech. How does this speech reveal both his imagination and his sense of humor?
- v] 10. List and explain the three images Romeo uses in his first speech after seeing Juliet for the first time [46-55].
11. *Explicate I, v, 95-108, paying particular attention to structure and imagery.

WORD ORDER: Copy each of the following lines, rearranging the order of the words to fit modern American grammar.

- Ex: "Put up your swords, you know not what you do." (I, i, 67)
** Put up your swords; you don't know what you're doing."*
1. "Many a morning hath he there been seen..." (134)
 2. "Unless good counsel may the cause remove..." (145)
 3. "He that is stricken blind cannot forget
The precious treasure of his eyesight lost." (235-6)

ACT ONE

A QUESTIONS

1. In the Prologue to Act I, what indicates that the outcome will be tragic? List four separate references in the first fourteen lines.
2. What is Benvolio's first action in the play? What is Tybalt's ?
3. What penalty does Prince Escalus pronounce on the Montagues and the Capulets? Why does he regard the street quarrel as more than a casual disturbance of the peace?
- [4. What do Romeo's words about the street fight show about his attitude toward the family quarrel? How can we tell from this passage that he is entirely preoccupied with what he thinks is his love for Rosaline?]
- [5. What advice does Benvolio give Romeo about Rosaline?]
6. What advice does Capulet give Paris about Juliet?
7. What is Juliet's reaction to her mother's news that Paris wants to marry her?
8. Romeo introduces the subject of dreams, and Mercutio launches into his Queen Mab speech. How does this speech reveal both his imagination and his sense of humor?
9. What is Romeo's immediate reaction when he first sees Juliet?
10. How does Juliet discover Romeo's identity? What is her reaction?

QUESTIONS

1. What is the attitude of the Prince towards the feud of the Capulets and the Montagues?
- [2. Why does Romeo ask Benvolio "Where shall we dine?"]
3. How is Juliet's entrance in scene 2 prepared for?
- [4. What does the servant think of Romeo's answers?]
5. Why does Benvolio suggest to Romeo that he go to the masque?
6. What does the Nurse mean by "God forbid!"?
7. What is the purpose of Mercutio's Queen Mab speech?
8. Why does Romeo's language change after he meets Juliet?
9. What do you learn of the character of Capulet, of Mercutio, of Romeo, of Juliet, of the Nurse?
10. What are the romantic elements in the background of the ballroom scene?

ACT TWO

