



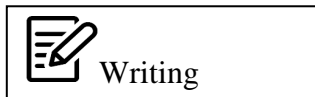
*~ A look inside
the Play ~
Analysis
Activities*

The Aim

Now that we have completed our reading of the play, we can start to delve deeper into certain aspects of the play. These activities aim to help you revise and think about Shakespeare's writing in preparation for the final assessment task for Romeo and Juliet.

How to Succeed

Throughout this document there are three types of icons to help you identify activities that you must do either independently or together with a group or the class. Here is a key:



Any written work must be posted to your English Blog. This will allow me to comment on your work and to make sure that you are accountable. When you come to a section that requires writing copy & paste the question/s relevant that you are answering onto a personal Blog post. Then complete them on the blog. On the Class Blog I have posted a document called Romeo & Juliet Notes & Quotes. This contains plot information, Character breakdowns, Theme notes and notable quotes. Use this and the text of the play to assist you in your completion of the work. We will timetable discussions in class to talk about certain aspects of the play and we will also have time where activities and tasks will be modelled and explained. You may need to complete some of this work for homework.

Revision



Read the document the plot summary in the 'Notes & Quotes' document on the Blog.



Copy the questions below into a Blog post. Name the post, 'Romeo & Juliet Quiz'. Complete the questions by typing in your own answers below each question. Use full sentences for each answer.

Complete the questions

1. Complete the quotation: "These_____delights have violent_____."
2. Where did Romeo go when he was banished from Verona?
3. Why did Friar Laurence agree to marry Romeo and Juliet?
4. What is Paris's last wish?
5. Why does Juliet tell Romeo not to swear by the moon?
6. How did Romeo help to cause Mercutio's death?
7. Complete the quotation: "I will make thee think thy swan a _____."
8. Who supplied Romeo with the poison?
9. What tribute do Capulet and Montague agree to pay to Romeo and Juliet after their deaths?
10. Who informed Romeo about Juliet's death?
11. Why did Friar Laurence's letter never reach Romeo?
12. Who was made into 'worms' meat'?
13. Old Capulet's servant had a problem with the list of guests he was to invite. What was the problem?
14. What upset Tybalt at the Capulet's ball?
15. Who says, 'Turn Benvolio and look upon thy death'?

Characters



Read the section on Characters in the 'Notes & Quotes' Document on the class Blog



We will discuss the main and minor characters in class. We will construct a character web for one character with notes on their actions and motivations in the play.



Write answers to the following questions on the characters on your Blog. Remember to use quotes to support your answers.

Choose two of the following six questions to answer about Romeo:

1. In a short paragraph describe the character of Romeo at the start of the play.
2. Briefly describe one weakness and one strength Romeo has.
3. Describe an important decision Romeo made and explain why you think this affected the outcome of the play.
4. How responsible is Romeo for this tragedy? What should he have done differently?
5. If you could give ONE piece of advice to Romeo, what would it be?
6. In your own words describe how you feel about Romeo. Give reasons to back up your opinion.

Choose two of the following seven questions to answer about Juliet:

1. Describe the character of Juliet at the start of the play.
2. Explain the changes which have occurred to Juliet throughout the text. Make sure you think about changes to her personality also. Include the things which caused these changes.
3. Look carefully at the list of adjectives in the box below. They are all relevant to the character of Juliet. Choose THREE and find an example from the text which proves these characteristics are applicable to Juliet.

quick-minded	determined	committed	independent
practical	obedient	deceptive	loyal

4. Describe an important decision Juliet made and explain how this decision affected her life.
5. How responsible is Juliet for this tragedy? What should she have done differently?
6. If you could give ONE piece of advice to Juliet what would it be?
7. In your own words describe how you feel about Juliet. Give reasons to back up your opinion.



Discussion on creative writing for the Dairy/ Letter questions based on Romeo and Juliet.



Choose one of the two options below and complete:

Option 1: Juliet's diary

Imagine you are Juliet. Write a diary entry for two of the key moments for her character below:

- after the Capulet Party where she has met Romeo for the first time. (Act I, Sc 5)
- when she has come inside after talking with Romeo. (Act 2, Sc 2)
- when she has found out that Romeo killed Tybalt. (Act 3, Sc 2)
- just before she drinks the Friar's potion. (Act 4, Sc 3)

Remember that a private diary is used not only to make a day-to-day record of events in one's life but also to explain one's secret thoughts. You will need to carefully reread the above scenes and put yourself into Juliet's shoes. Try and imagine what she may be thinking about various people and their actions, her emotions, her dreams and wishful thinking etc.

Option 2: Romeo's Letter

At the beginning of Act 5, Scene 3 Romeo gives Balthasar a letter and asks him to deliver it to his father. Imagine you are Romeo and write this same letter, thinking carefully what explanations Romeo would have made.

Themes



Read the section on Themes in the 'Notes & Quotes' document on the class Blog.



Discussion about the two key themes in Romeo and Juliet: 'Conflict' and 'Think before you act'.



Complete the questions below on Themes:

Theme 1: Conflict

Answer all five of the following questions:

1. Explain in your own words what a feud is. You may like to use a dictionary to help you.
2. Who was the feud between in Romeo and Juliet?
3. Why is the feud important in the play?
4. Find three quotations from the play that illustrate the feud.
5. In today's world are there any groups of people that continue feuds in this way. Give some examples.

Answer one of the following three questions:

6. Do you think Romeo and Juliet should have obeyed their parents and continued the feud? Why? Why not?
7. Who do you think is responsible for the death of Romeo and Juliet? 'themselves? Their parents? The friar? Explain your opinion with detail and reasons.
8. The feud is only one type of conflict in the play. Create a list of other conflicts that you recognise in the play. Carry out the following investigations for each.
 - (i) Write a sentence that explains the conflict in general.
 - (ii) Find one example which gives evidence of the conflict.
 - (iii) Find one quotation to support the example.

Theme 2: Think Before you Act (Choice & Consequence)



There are several places in the text where we can see the characters of the play failing to think before they act and therefore failing to consider the consequences of their actions. Below is a list of such places. We will discuss each of these in class and consider the questions that accompany these references.



Following our discussion answer the following questions:

1. Romeo visiting Juliet after the Capulet banquet (Act 2, Sc 2). What does Juliet say about the danger of this visit?
2. Juliet's suggestion of marriage (Act 2, Sc 2). Find and copy down the quotation where she asks Romeo's intention. Underline the word that shows the speed of this arrangement.
3. The friar makes several comments about the 'speed' of the relationship and the following marriage. Find one quotation in Act 2, Sc 3 and the other in Act 2, Sc 6. For each explain the meaning behind Friar Laurence's words.
4. Romeo's revenge killing of Tybalt. What does Benvolio tell Romeo 'not' to do? (Act 3, Sc I). Re-read Benvolio's account to the Prince of the fight. There is a group of three key lines that comment on Romeo's mood and the speed of the fight. What do these lines suggest about the fight?
5. Both Romeo (Act 3, Sc 3) and Juliet (Act 4, Sc I) attempt to kill themselves as a way out of their predicaments. Each time the friar stops them and offers an alternative. Copy the friar's line to stop each attempt. Were the characters being over-dramatic?
6. Romeo returning to Verona on hearing of Juliet's death (Act 5, Sc I). Instead of stopping and thinking his actions through or waiting to check the facts with the friar, Romeo heads off to buy poison so he may join his wife. What does Balthasar advise Romeo to do? What are his reasons for doing so? What would you have advised Romeo to do at this stage?

Final Assessment

This will be completed in class over the course of four periods. No work is to be done on this task outside class time.

1. Describe an important conflict and explain why it is important to the play. The essay will need to be 600 words in length and should follow the SEXY structure. Remember to use quotes to support your arguments.