**ROME AND JULIET STUDY QUESTIONS**

**PROLOGUE**
1. A prologue gives the reader information. Explain what it says about the plot and length of the play.

**ACT I, SCENE 1**
1. Why do Tybalt and Benvolio fight?

2. Prince Escalus foreshadows what will happen if the street brawls between the Montagues and the Capulets occur again. Quote and explain his statement.

3. Quote and explain an example of personification of the sun in this scene.

4. Why is Romeo unhappy? Quote a line to support your answer.

5. What solution does Benvolio suggest to Romeo? Quote a line to support your answer.

**ACT I, SCENE 2**
1. Capulet, Juliet’s father, gives her age and a plan for Paris. Explain these two pieces of information.

2. Why does the servant ask Romeo to read the invitation? Explain what the servant says.

3. What does Benvolio suggest to Romeo after he reads the invitation? Why does he suggest this?

**ACT I, SCENE 3**
4. The Nurse gives Juliet’s age and birthday. Give the quote that states Juliets’s age and birthday.

5. How does Juliet react to her mother’s idea of marriage? What does Juliet agree to do about Paris’ wooing her?
ACT I, SCENE 4
1. Romeo says it is not a good idea to go to the feast because of a dream he had. Quote and explain another example of foreshadowing that Romeo uses in this scene.

ACT I, SCENE 5
1. Since the guests are masked, how does Tybalt recognize Romeo?


3. How do Romeo and Juliet feel about each other when they meet? Quote a line from each that proves how they feel.

4. Quote and explain their statements after Romeo and Juliet learn each is from an enemy family.

ACT II, SCENE 1
1. Whom does Mercutio assume Romeo is in love with? Quote him.

ACT II, SCENE 2
1. Quote and explain the metaphor Romeo uses to describe Juliet.

2. In her soliloquy, why does Juliet say, “O, be some other name”?

3. After Romeo appears, why is Juliet embarrassed when she realizes it is Romeo?

4. When Juliet speaks about “light love,” what specifically does she mean by the word “light”? 
5. Juliet says, “…I have no joy of this contract tonight./It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden.” Nonetheless, what arrangements does she make with Romeo?

6. What is Romeo going to do after he leaves Juliet? Quote him.

**ACT II, SCENE 3**

1. In addition to describing the qualities and dangers of herbs, Friar Laurence also compares these qualities to those in humans. Quote and explain what he says.

2. When Romeo asks the Friar to marry him to Juliet immediately, the Friar comments on Romeo’s fickleness. Explain what he says.

3. Why does the Friar agree to perform the ceremony?

**ACT II, SCENE 4**

1. In what way is Tybalt more dangerous than the fictional “Prince of Cats”? What might this image foreshadow?

2. Romeo gives the Nurse two instructions regarding his plans for his marriage to Juliet. Quote and explain these instructions.

**ACT II, SCENE 5**

1. What is the setting (time and location) of this scene?

2. What are Juliet’s concerns as the scene opens? Quote her.

3. Describe the actions of the Nurse that add to Juliet’s suspense. Quote two of the Nurse’s “complaints.”
ACT II, SCENE 6
1. Both Romeo and the Friar refer to future sorrows. Quote and explain each of their statements.

2. What concerns does the Friar express in this scene about Romeo and Juliet’s relationship in regards to its possible consequences? Quote him.

3. Explain the Friar’s closing statements in this scene.

ACT III, SCENE 1
1. Which of the young men is the peacemaker in the scene? What warning does he give Mercutio?

2. Tybalt tells Romeo, “Boy, this shall not excuse the injuries/That thou has done me.” What “injuries” is Tybalt referring to?

3. Quote and explain Romeo’s response to Tybalt.

4. How does Mercutio become involved in the fight? What ultimately happens to Mercutio?

5. This serious scene contains a pun by Mercutio. Quote and explain the pun.

6. What does Romeo say will come of Mercutio’s death? Quote and explain.

7. Why does Montague say that Romeo should be pardoned for killing Tybalt?

8. Explain the Prince’s response to the killings.
ACT III, SCENE 2
1. When the Nurse approaches Juliet, what does Juliet think has happened?

2. In describing her allegiance to Romeo, Juliet uses several oxymorons. Quote and explain two.

3. With what statement by the Nurse does Juliet disagree? Explain both the Nurse’s statement and Juliet’s statement.

4. Juliet has mixed emotions about Tybalt’s death and Romeo, but what bothers her most? Explain.

ACT III, SCENE 3
1. How does Romeo react to the news that Friar Laurence gives him about the Prince’s punishment? Quote and explain Romeo’s statement.

2. When the Friar protests that being exiled is a merciful punishment, Romeo disagrees. Quote and explain both his statement and Romeo’s response.

3. How does Friar Laurence try to talk Romeo out of suicide? Explain his reasoning.

4. What is the Friar’s plan?

ACT III, SCENE 4
1. Capulet has decided Juliet must marry Paris immediately. Quote and explain his plan.
**ACT III, SCENE 5**

1. Why does Juliet say the bird singing was a nightingale? What does Romeo say to disprove her?

2. What does Romeo say to convince Juliet that he must leave? Quote and explain.

3. Quote and explain Juliet’s lines that foreshadow Romeo’s death.

4. How does Capulet react when Juliet refuses his plan?

5. Juliet says, “Thou has comforted me marvelous much.” To whom is she speaking, what is her tone, and why did she say that?


7. What might Juliet do if the Friar cannot help her? Quote and explain.

**ACT IV, SCENE 1**

1. What has Paris told the Friar about the wedding date? Quote and explain the Friar’s response.

2. Why hasn’t Paris spoken to Juliet about the marriage?

3. To remain Romeo’s pure wife, Juliet says she would endure many fearful things. Quote and explain two of the things she would endure.

4. Explain the Friar’s solution and plan.
5. Why is the Friar willing to become involved in solving Romeo and Juliet’s problems?

**ACT IV, SCENE 2**
1. What does Capulet do in response to Juliet’s agreeing to marry Paris? Quote and explain.

2. What is Capulet’s attitude toward Juliet at the end of this scene?

**ACT IV, SCENE 3**
1. Quote and explain the lines from Juliet’s soliloquy, which foreshadow her death.

2. Quote and explain three of Juliet’s fears as she considers taking the potion.

3. Ironically, two of the fears Juliet expressed in Scene 1 that she would endure, she now fears. Quote and explain her lines from both scenes involving these fears.

4. Report Juliet’s final actions in this scene.

**ACT IV, SCENE 4**
1. Tell how the actions in this scene are in direct contrast to the previous scene. Give two examples.
ACT IV, SCENE 5
1. Capulet says, “Ha! let me see her. Out alas! she’s cold.” Tell how his statement shows that the Friar’s plan is working. Explain what the Friar predicted and how it fits what has happened.

2. How does the Friar urge the Capulets to proceed quickly with Juliet’s funeral?

ACT V, SCENE 1
1. What does Romeo foreshadow in his opening speech? Quote and explain.

2. Explain what Romeo means when he says, “Then I defy you, stars!”

3. Why does Romeo believe the Apothecary will break the law and sell him poison?


ACT V, SCENE 2
1. What happened to Friar John on his way to deliver the letter to Romeo?

2. What does Friar Laurence say about the importance of his letter? Quote and explain.

3. The Friar’s closing speech in this scene is important. Explain it.
ACT V, SCENE 3
1. Why has Paris come to the graveyard? Quote and explain.

2. How does Balthasar disobey Romeo? Why does he decide to do that?

3. Why does Romeo kill Paris?

4. Juliet will awaken soon. Quote and explain the lines that show this.

5. This does not sway Romeo from his original purpose. What does he do?

6. After Juliet discovers Romeo’s body, she refuses a plan of the Friar. What is the Friar’s plan? What does Juliet do instead?

7. What other death is reported by Montague to the Prince? Quote and explain the cause of death.

8. What purpose does the letter from Romeo serve?

9. The Prince also blames himself for the deaths. Quote and explain.

10. How do Capulet and Montague plan to honor their children?