

ROMEO AND JULIET: Reading and Study Guide

ACT I

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: _____

figurative language: _____

Example: _____

foil: _____

Example: _____

foreshadowing _____

Example: _____

iambic meter: _____

iambic pentameter: _____

metaphor: _____

Example: _____

simile: _____

Example: _____

pun: _____

Example: _____

III. QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. In what city does the play take place?
2. In the Prologue, the Chorus refers to Romeo and Juliet as "star crossed lovers," which basically tells the reader what?
3. When the servants begin fighting in the first scene, one character tries to break them up. What is his name?
4. The fighting between the two households escalates when this hot-tempered character shows up and insults another.
5. What threat does the Prince make to Lord Montague and Lord Capulet?
6. In the beginning of the play, why is Romeo so sad?
7. What is Benvolio's advice to Romeo?
8. What does Paris request from Lord Capulet?
9. What does Lord Capulet tell Paris in response to his request?
10. What problem does the servant have with the guest list?
11. How does the reader learn the name of the woman Romeo loves in the beginning of the play?
12. What does Benvolio suggest Romeo and his friends should do?
13. What is Juliet's relationship with the Nurse like?
14. When Lady Capulet asks Juliet about marriage, how does Juliet respond?
15. How do the Montagues intend to get into the Capulet gathering?
16. What does Romeo dream about?
17. When the reader first meets Mercutio, he gives a long speech to Romeo about what?
18. Who recognizes Romeo at the Capulet household?
19. How does Romeo find out Juliet's last name?
20. How does Juliet find out Romeo's last name?
21. Where was Shakespeare born?
22. Which of the following is NOT an element of a true tragedy?
23. Why did Shakespeare often write in blank verse?
24. During what time period did Shakespeare live and work?
25. Which of the following was NOT an attribute of the Elizabethan stage?

26. Where did the Great Chain of Being come from?
27. What is the basic idea behind the Great Chain of Being?
28. Why is the Nurse a good example of the Great Chain of Being?
29. Which of the following characters would be the highest on the Great Chain of Being?
30. Which of the following would be the lowest on the Great Chain of Being?
31. What two characters would be the furthest away from each other on the Great Chain of Being?
32. How is the Nurse a "foil" of Lady Capulet?
33. Why is the Boethian Wheel important?
34. What is the basic premise of the Boethian Wheel?
35. Which of the five conflicts is best represented by the Boethian Wheel?
36. Which of the following is a clear example of the Boethian Wheel being referred to in the play?

IV. QUOTE QUESTIONS

1. The following lines are an example of what?

“Did my heart love till now? Forswear it, sight!/For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.”

- a. couplet
- b. personification
- c. oxymoron
- d. epithet

2. Who speaks these lines?

“What drawn, and talk of peace! I hate the word/As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee.”

3. Who speaks these lines?

“O, She doth teach the torches to burn bright!/ It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night/As a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—”

4. Who speaks these lines?

“Uncle, this is a Montague, our foe,/A villain, that is hither come in spite/To scorn at our solemnity this night.”

5. Who overhears these lines?

“O, She doth teach the torches to burn bright!/It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night/As a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—”

6. To whom are these lines spoken?

“This night I hold an old accustomed feast,/Whereto I have invited many a guest,/Such as I love; and you among the store,/One more, most welcome, makes my number more.”

7. Who speaks this line?

“It is an honor that I dream not of.”

8. To whom are these lines spoken?

“Tut! I have lost myself; I am not here;/This is not Romeo, he's some other where.”

9. Who speaks these lines?

“O, then I see Queen Mab hath been with you./She is the fairies' midwife, and she comes/In shape no bigger than an agate stone/On the forefinger of an alderman,/Drawn with a team of little atomies/Over men's noses as they lie asleep.”

10. To whom are these lines spoken?

“Content thee, gentle coz, let him alone./A bears him like a portly gentleman,/And, to say truth, Verona brags of him/To be virtuous and well-governed youth./I would not for the wealth of all this town/Here in my house do him disparagement.”

11. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“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 a despised life, closed in my breast,/By some vile forfeit of untimely death.”

- a. foil
- b. pun
- c. simile
- d. foreshadowing

12. Who speaks these lines?

“Content thee, gentle coz, let him alone./A bears him like a portly gentleman,/And, to say truth, Verona brags of him/To be virtuous and well-governed youth./I would not for the wealth of all this town/Here in my house do him disparagement.”

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“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 a despised life, closed in my breast,/By some vile forfeit of untimely death.”

14. Who speaks these lines?

“If I profance with my unworhiest hand/This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this:/My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand/To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.”

15. To whom are these lines spoken?

“What drawn, and talk of peace! I hate the word/As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee.”

16. Who speaks these lines?

“My only love, sprung from my only hate!/Too early seen unknown, and known too late!/Prodigious birth of love it is to me/That I must love a loathed enemy.”

17. Who is being described in these lines?

“With Cupid's arrow. She hath Dian's wit . . . /O, she is rich in beauty; only poor/That, when she dies, with beauty dies her store.”

18. Who speaks these lines?

“But Montague is bound as well as I,/In penalty alike; and 'tis not hard, I think,/For men so old as we to keep the peace.”

19. The following lines have an example of what?

Romeo: The game was ne'er so fair, and I am done.

Mercutio: Tut! Dun's the mouse, the constable's own word. / If thou art Dun, we'll draw thee from the mire.

- a. oxymoron
- b. pun
- c. suspense
- d. conflict

20. To whom are these lines spoken?

‘O, She doth teach the torches to burn bright!/It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night/As a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—”

21. Who speaks these lines?

“If ever you disturb our streets again,/Your lives shall pay the forfeit of the peace.”

22. Who speaks this line?

“O dear account! My life is my foe's debt.”

23. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“O, She doth teach the torches to burn bright!/It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night/As a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear—”

- a. pun
- b. simile
- c. foreshadowing
- d. foil

24. To whom are these lines spoken?

“But Montague is bound as well as I,/In penalty alike; and 'tis not hard, I think,/For men so old as we to keep the peace.”

25. Who speaks these lines?

“Tut! I have lost myself; I am not here;/This is not Romeo, he's some other where.”

ACT II/III

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

cunning _____

vile _____

predominant _____

unwieldy _____

banishment: _____

dexterity: _____

idolatry: _____

reconcile: _____

exile: _____

fickle: _____

gallant: _____

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

analogy: _____

Example: _____

imagery: _____

irony: _____

Example: _____

I. dramatic irony _____

Example: _____

II. situational irony _____

Example: _____

III. verbal irony: _____

Example: _____

monologue: _____

oxymoron: _____

Example: _____

personification: _____

Example: _____

soliloquy: _____

allusion: _____

Example: _____

climax: _____

dramatic structure: _____

symbol: _____

Example: _____

III. QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. When Romeo speaks the following it is an example of what literary term:
2. What is Juliet's speech about names really discussing?
3. Juliet asks how Romeo got into her place, since the orchard walls are high and Romeo's life would be in danger if her relatives find him. What is Romeo's response to these questions?
4. What does Friar Laurence mean when he says to Romeo,
5. What does it mean when the Nurse tells Romeo
6. How does the Nurse behave which is frustrating to Juliet?
7. What is Friar Lawrence's advice to Romeo when he says,
8. Why won't Romeo fight Tybalt?

9. Why does Mercutio keep repeating, “A plague o’ both your houses”?
10. What does Romeo say Juliet’s love has done to him?
11. When Benvolio recounts to the Prince what happened in the fight scene, what does he say ROMEO tried to do to end the fighting?
12. Before the nurse returns to give Juliet the news of Tybalt’s death, why does Juliet seem happy and eager for nightfall?
13. When Juliet finally learns it is Tybalt who died at the hands of Romeo, how does she respond?
14. What is Romeo’s reaction to the news of his banishment?
15. Romeo tells Friar Lawrence the priest cannot know or understand how Romeo feels, why?
16. What argument does Friar Lawrence use to prevent Romeo from killing himself with a dagger.
17. When Lord and Lady Capulet continue to prepare for the union of Paris and Juliet, this is an example of what literary term.
18. When Lady Capulet enters Juliet’s chamber, she thinks Juliet is crying about Tybalt’s death, but the reader knows what?
19. What “scheme” does Juliet devise to get rid of the nurse and to get out of the house.
20. What is Juliet really planning to do?
21. Which of the following is NOT an example of the Great Chain of Being from the play?
22. Which of the following is NOT an example of the Boethian Wheel in the play?

IV. QUOTE QUESTIONS (12 of these are on the quiz) - Learn the answers on the R&J section of the website!

1. To whom are these lines spoken?

“Lord, how my head aches! What a head have I!/It beats as it would fall in twenty pieces./My back a t’other side--ah, my back, my back!”

2. Who speaks these lines?

“O, swear not by the moon, th’ inconstant moon,/That monthly changes in her circle orb,/Lest that thy love prove likewise variable.”

3. Who speaks these lines?

“Amen, amen! But come what sorrow can,/It cannot countervail the exchange of joy/That one short minute gives me in her sight.”

4. Who speaks these lines?

“Lord, how my head aches! What a head have I!/It beats as it would fall in twenty pieces./My back a t’other side--ah, my back, my back!”

5. Who speaks these lines?

“O Romeo, Romeo! Wherefore art thou Romeo?/Deny thy father and refuse thy name;/Or, if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love,/And I'll no longer be a Capulet.”

6. Who speaks these lines?

“But soft! What light through yonder window breaks?/It is the East, and Juliet is the sun!”

7. What is meant by the following lines?

“O, swear not by the moon, th' inconstant moon,/That monthly changes in her circle orb,/Lest that thy love prove likewise variable.”

8. Swearing on the moon is bad because _____.

- a. the moon is envious.
- b. there is no moon on this evening.
- c. the sun is brighter.
- d. swearing is bad.
- e. the moon is always changing.

9. Who speaks these lines?

“Virtue itself turns vice, being misapplied,/And vice sometime by action dignified.”

10. What is being asked in this line?

“O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?”

- a. Why does Romeo have to have the name Romeo and therefore be a Montague?
- b. What has Romeo done?
- c. Why is Romeo such a romantic?
- d. Where is Romeo?

11. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“Good night, good night! Parting is such sweet sorrow/That I shall say good night till it be morrow.”

- a. oxymoron
- b. metaphor
- c. pun
- d. personification

12. Who speaks this line?

“He Jests at scars that never felt a wound.”

13. Who speaks these lines?

“Therefore love moderately: long love doth so;/Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow./It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden;/Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be/Ere one can say it lightens. Sweet, good night!”

14. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon,/Who is already sick and pale with grief/That thou her maid art far more fair than she.”

- a. personification
- b. analogy
- c. oxymoron
- d. monologue
- e. pun

15. Who speaks these lines?

“Good Peter, to hide her face; for her fan's the fairer face.”

16. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“The gray-eyed morn smiles on the frowning night.”

- a. pun
- b. personification
- c. analogy
- d. metaphor
- e. oxymoron
- f.

17. Who speaks these lines?

“O blessed, blessed night! I am afeard,/Being in night, all this is but a dream,/Too flattering-sweet to be substantial.”

18. Who speaks these lines?

“If that thy bent of love be honorable,/Thy purpose marriage, send me word tomorrow,/By one I'll procure to come to thee,/Where and what time thou wilt perform the rite;/And all my fortunes at thy foot I'll lay/And follow thee my lord throughout the world.”

19. To whom are these lines spoken?

“In one respect I'll thy assistant be;/For this alliance may so happy prove/To turn your households' rancor to pure love.”

20. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“What's in a name? That which we call a rose/By any other name would smell as sweet./So Romeo would, were he not Romeo called,/Retain that dear perfection which he owes/Without that title. . . .”

- a. personification
- b. pun
- c. verbal irony
- d. analogy

21. Who speaks these lines?

“In one respect I'll thy assistant be;/For this alliance may so happy prove/To turn your households' rancor to pure love.”

22. Who speaks these lines?

“O Prince! O cousin! Husband! O, the blood is spilled/Of my dear kinsman! Prince, as thou art true,/For blood of ours shed blood of Montague.”

23. Who speaks these lines?

“I am hurt./A plague a both houses! I am sped.”

24. Who speaks these lines?

“Hang thee, young baggage! Disobedient wretch!/I tell thee what--get thee to church a Thursday/Or never after look me in the face.”

25. Who speaks these lines?

“Hold thy desperate hand./Art thou a man? They form cries out thou art;/They tears are womanish, thy wild acts denote/The unreasonable fury of a beast.”

26. Who speaks these lines?

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

27. Who speaks these lines?

“Go get thee to thy love, as was decreed, /Ascend her chamber, hence and comfort her./But look thou stay not till the watch be set,/For then thou canst not pass to Mantua.”

28. Who speaks these lines?

“O, I am fortune's fool!”

29. Who speaks these lines?

“There is no world without Verona walls,/But purgatory, torture, hell itself./Hence banished is banished from the world,/And world's exile is death.”

30. Who speaks these lines?

“Go in; and tell my lady I am gone,/Having displeased my father, to Lawrence' cell,/To make confession and to be absolved.”

31. Who speaks these lines?

“O, tell me, friar, tell me,/In what vile part of this anatomy/Doth my name lodge? Tell me, that I may sack/The hateful mansion.”

32. Who speaks these lines?

“Wilt thou be gone? It is not yet near day./It was a nightingale, and not the lark,/That pierced the fearful hollow of thine ear./Nightly she sings on yond pomegranate tree./Believe me, love, it was the nightingale.”

33. Who speaks these lines?

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

ACT IV/V

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

lament: _____

shroud: _____

dismal: _____

vial: _____

loathsome: _____

ambiguity _____

peruse _____

remnants _____

haughty _____

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

protagonist: _____

Example: _____

antagonist: _____

Example: _____

motivation: _____

theme: _____

Example: _____

III. QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. If Friar Laurence cannot help her, what does Juliet threaten to do?
2. Describe the Friar's plan for Juliet?
3. Describe the Friar's plan for Juliet?
4. What goes wrong in the Friar's plan?
5. If the potion does not work, what will Juliet do?
6. Before drinking the potion Juliet has all of the following fears EXCEPT?
7. What is the mood like as the Capulets prepare for Juliet's marriage to Paris?
8. What form of figurative language is being used in this passage:
9. What type of figurative language is being used in this passage:
10. What does Friar Laurence say to comfort the Capulet family?
11. When the Capulets assume Juliet is dead, what do they start preparing for?
12. What actions does Balthasar's news prompt Romeo to do?
13. Why does the apothecary say "My poverty, but not my will consents"?
14. What does Friar John tell Friar Laurence?
15. After hearing this news from Friar John, what does Friar Laurence intend to do?
16. Why does Paris think Romeo has come to the tomb?
17. Why does Romeo seem saddened with Paris' death even though he killed him?
18. What is it about Juliet which should have told Romeo that she was not dead?
19. Why does Juliet kiss Romeo after he is dead?
20. Why does the Prince say "All are punished"?
21. How do Montague and Capulet plan to honor the memories of their children?
22. What is the basic premise of the Boethian Wheel, named after the philosopher Boethius?
23. Which of the following is NOT an example of the Boethian Wheel being referred to in the play?
24. What is the basic idea behind the Great Chain of Being?
25. Which of the following is NOT an example of the Great Chain of Being being referred to in the play?

IV. QUOTE QUESTIONS

1. Who speaks these lines?

“Farewell! God knows when we shall meet again./I have a faint cold fear thrills through my veins/That almost freezes up the heat of life./I’ll call them back again to comfort me. . . ./My dismal scene I needs must act alone./Come, vial.”

2. The following lines have an example of what?

“Death is my son-in-law, Death is my heir,/My daughter he hath wedded. I will die,/And leave him all--life, living, all is Death's.”

- a. personification
- b. pun
- c. irony
- d. oxymoron
- e. symbol

3. Who speaks these lines?

“Where I have learnt me to repent the sin/Of disobedient opposition/To you and your behests, and am enjoined/By holy Lawrence to fall prostrate here/To beg your pardon. Pardon. I beseech you!”

4. Who speaks these lines?

“Death is my son-in-law, Death is my heir,/My daughter he hath wedded. I will die,/And leave him all--life, living, all is Death's.”

5. Who speaks these lines?

“And in this borrowed likeness of shrunk death/Thou shalt continue two-and-forty hours,/And then awake as from a pleasant sleep.”

6. The following lines have an example of what?

“First Musician: Faith, we may put up our pipes and be gone.

Nurse: For well you know this is a pitiful *case*.

First Musician: Ay, by my troth, the *case* may be amended.

- a. irony
- b. personification
- c. oxymoron
- d. pun
- e. symbol

7. Who speaks these lines?

“Peace, ho, for shame! Confusion's cure lives not/In these confusions. Heaven and yourself/Had part in this fair maid--now heaven hath all,/And all the better is it for the maid.”

8. Who speaks these lines?

“Why, love, I say! Madam! Sweetheart! Why, bride!/Marry and amen, how sound is she asleep!/I needs must wake her. Madam, madam, madam!”

9. Who speaks these lines?

“Send for the County. Go tell him of this./I’ll have this knot knit up tomorrow morning. . . ./Why, I am glad on't. This is well. “

10. Who speaks these lines?

“Tell me not, friar, that thou hearest of this,/Unless thou tell me how I may prevent it./If in thy wisdom thou canst give no help,/Do thou but call my resolution wise/And with this knife I'll help it presently.”

11. Who speaks these lines?

“Such mortal drugs I have; but Mantua's law/Is death to any he that utters them.”

12. Who speaks these lines?

“Yea, noise? Then I'll be brief. O happy dagger!/This is thy sheath; there rust, and let me die.”

13. Who speaks these lines?

“My poverty but not my will consents.”

14. These lines have an example of what literary term?

“Death, that hath sucked the honey of thy breath,/Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty./Thou art not conquered. Beauty's ensign yet/Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,/And death's pale flag is not advanced there.”

- a. pun
- b. hyperbole
- c. personification
- d. irony

15. Who speaks these lines?

“Death, that hath sucked the honey of thy breath,/Hath had no power yet upon thy beauty./Thou art not conquered. Beauty's ensign yet/Is crimson in thy lips and in thy cheeks,/And death's pale flag is not advanced there.”

16. Who speaks these lines?

“Now must I to the monument alone./Within this three hours will fair Juliet wake./She will beshrew me much that Romeo/Hath had no notice of these accidents.”

17. Who speaks these lines?

“O, I am slain! If thou be merciful./Open the tomb, lay me with Juliet.”

18. Who speaks these lines?

“Suspecting that we both were in a house/Where the infectious pestilence did reign,/Sealed up the doors, and would not let us forth./So that my speed to Mantua there was stayed.”

19. Who speaks these lines?

“Why art thou yet so fair? Shall I believe/That unsubstantial Death is amorous,/And that the lean abhorred monster keeps/Thee here in dark to be his paramour?”

20. Who speaks these lines?

“Her body sleeps in Capels' monument./And her immortal part with angels lives./I saw her laid low in her kindred's vault/And presently took post to tell it you.”

21. To whom are these lines spoken?

“O, I am slain! If thou be merciful./Open the tomb, lay me with Juliet.”

22. Who speaks these lines?

“See what a scourge is laid upon your hate,/That heaven finds means to kill your joys with love./And I, for winking at your discords too,/Have lost a brace of kinsmen. All are punished.”

23. Who speaks these lines?

“Go hence, to have more talk of these sad things;/Some shall be pardoned, and some punished;/For never was a story of more woe/Than this of Juliet and her Romeo.”

24. Who speaks these lines?

“Come, come away./Thy husband in thy bosom lies dead,/And Paris, too. Come, I'll dispose of thee/Among a sisterhood of holy nuns.”

25. Who speaks these lines?

“Here's to my love! O true apothecary!/Thy drugs are quick. Thus with a kiss I die.”