

Year 9- Module



Romeo and Juliet By: William Shakespeare

Written 1597, set in 1300s

Character List:

Romeo - The son and heir of Montague and Lady Montague.

Juliet - The daughter of Capulet and Lady Capulet.

Friar Lawrence - A Franciscan friar, friend to both Romeo and Juliet.

Mercutio - A kinsman to the Prince, and Romeo's close friend.

The Nurse - Juliet's nurse, the woman who breast-fed Juliet when she was a baby and has cared for Juliet her entire life.

Tybalt - A Capulet, Juliet's cousin on her mother's side.

Capulet - The patriarch of the Capulet family, father of Juliet, husband of Lady Capulet, and enemy, for unexplained reasons, of Montague.

Lady Capulet - Juliet's mother, Capulet's wife.

Montague - Romeo's father, the patriarch of the Montague clan and bitter enemy of Capulet.

Lady Montague - Romeo's mother, Montague's wife.

Benvolio - Montague's nephew, Romeo's cousin and thoughtful friend

Minor characters:

Paris - A kinsman of the Prince, and the suitor of Juliet most preferred by Capulet.

Prince Escalus - The Prince of Verona. A kinsman of Mercutio and Paris.

Sampson and Gregory: two servants of the Capulet household.

Abram: servant of the Montagues

Friar John: a Franciscan Friar given a task by Friar Lawrence to support Romeo and Juliet

Balthazar: Romeo's servant

Apothecary: a health professional who makes medications

Peter: A Capulet servant

Chorus: a narrator offering commentary on the plot and themes

Rosaline: the woman Romeo is infatuated with at the beginning

Summary (Prologue and 5 Acts):

Prologue: In a fourteen-line sonnet, the **Chorus** describes two noble households and the grudge they hold against each other which will be ended by a pair of star-crossed lovers.

Act 1: focuses on the **tension** between the Montague and Capulet families and the future marriage of Juliet.

Act 2: focuses on the meeting and growing **relationship** between Romeo and Juliet.

Act 3: focuses on growing **conflict** between the Capulets and Montagues and the impact that the conflict has on both families.

Act 4: focuses on the impact that the **feud** has on Romeo and Juliet's relationship and the plan that the young lovers devise to remain together.

Act 5: After a brief separation miscommunication between the lovers ends in **tragedy**.

Settings (importance):

Verona, Italy.

Streets of Verona
Symbolic of conflict

Juliet's bedroom/balcony
Symbolic of youth and love

Friar Lawrence's cell
Symbolic of hope

Mantua
Symbolic of separation

Capulet's house
Symbolic of prosperity

Capulet family crypt
Symbolic of death

Themes:	Key Vocabulary/Spelling:	Context:	Subject Terminology:
<p>Family: conflicting views of younger and older generations within families is demonstrated through the Montagues and Capulets</p> <p>Violence/conflict: the themes of death and violence permeate throughout the play and are linked to passion (either love or hate)</p> <p>Love: The play focuses on romantic love and the power that love has.</p> <p>Fate: A sense of fate permeates throughout the play and the characters are also aware of it.</p> <p>Youth: Shakespeare uses Romeo and Juliet to highlight the theme of youth through their actions and understanding</p>	<p>Tension: Tension is a growing sense of expectation within the drama, a feeling that the story is building up towards something exciting happening.</p> <p>Feud: a prolonged and bitter quarrel or dispute.</p> <p>Tragedy: a play dealing with tragic events and having an unhappy ending, especially one concerning the downfall of the main character.</p> <p>Patriarchy: a society governed by men in which the father is the head of the household and women are expected to obey the men in their lives</p> <p>Duel: a contest with deadly weapons arranged between two people in order to settle a point of honour.</p> <p>Apothecary: a health professional who is trained in the art of preparing medication</p> <p>Banishment: a punishment of being sent away from a country or place</p> <p>Inauspicious: showing signs that something will not be successful</p> <p>Portentous: dealing with a sign, foreboding or omen</p> <p>Valiant: courageous</p> <p>Profane: showing contempt towards sacred things</p> <p>Peril: danger</p>	<p>Written by William Shakespeare, one of the most well-known playwrights of all time who was a favourite of the monarchs.</p> <p>Patriarchal society: a society governed by men in which the father is the head of the household and women are expected to obey the men in their lives</p> <p>Fathers and daughters: Daughters would be expected to behave in accordance with their father’s wishes in all aspects of life</p> <p>Religion: the two main religions in England were Catholic and Protestant and the ruling monarch dictated the religion</p> <p>Italy: The play is set in Verona – in Renaissance Italy - considered the height of fashion in Elizabethan England.</p> <p>Social class: Hierarchy was very important in Elizabethan England and there was social distinction in ranks with rules and responsibilities which everyone had to follow.</p>	<p>Foreshadowing- hints about future events</p> <p>Dramatic Irony When a situation is understood by the audience but not the characters</p> <p>Prologue A separate introductory section of a literary, dramatic, or musical work.</p> <p>Dialogue A conversation between two or more people as a feature of a book, play, or film.</p> <p>Monologue A long speech by one character</p> <p>Pun A joke exploiting the different possible meanings of a word</p> <p>Stage directions An instruction in the text of a play indicating the movement, position, or tone of an actor, or the sound effects and lighting.</p>