**Romeo & Juliet Study Guide**

**English 9**

**Cast of Characters:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role in the play</th>
<th>whose “side”? Montague or Capulet?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Romeo</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lord and Lady Montague</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lord and Lady Capulet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mercutio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benvolio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tybalt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friar Laurence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prince (Escalus)</td>
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- Written around 1597, based on a poem by Arthur Brooke: The Tragicall History of Romeus and Juliet (1562).
- Over 40 movie versions and countless stage adaptations
- Most of the main characters are young, immature, and rich. They’re used to getting whatever they want whenever they want it.
- The older characters are rich and powerful. They’re used to getting whatever they want whenever they want it
- Some characters are meant as comic relief, especially the nurse.
- There are other characters who are supposed to be the wise ones who provide guidance to the younger characters.
- **SETTING:** Verona, Italy is a large town ruled by a prince. A portion of the play takes place in Mantua, a much smaller, more run-down city.
William Shakespeare

1. Born ______________
2. Died ______________
3. Lack of info – leads to _________________
4. Three types of plays
   a. Histories
   b. Tragedies
   c. Comedies
5. Why study Shakespeare?
6. Respect for:
   d. Characters
   e. “Test of Time”
   f. Universal Themes
   g. Language

The Globe Theater

1. What existed before the Globe?
2. Anything unique about the actors?
3. What type of Stage?
   a. 
   b. 
   c. 
4. Who was in the audience?
5. Audience behavior
Act 1 - Chorus
1. Why are the two families fighting?
2. What will happen to end this feud? (spoiler alert!!)

Act 1, Scene 1
1. This scene opens in the streets of what city in what country?
2. Prince Escalus breaks up a fight. If another fight breaks out, what will happen?
3. Benvolio and Lord and Lady Montague discuss Romeo’s mood. What do they say that shows he is depressed?
4. Why does ROMEO say he is depressed?

Act 1, Scene 2
1. Paris asks Lord Capulet for permission to do what?
2. Why does Capulet hesitate to give his permission?
3. Benvolio tells Romeo to “find a new infection...” the infection is LOVE. What does Benvolio think Romeo should do?
Act 1, Scene 3-4
1. What does the Nurse say that lets us know she is fond of Juliet?

2. Why does the Nurse seem to be impressed by Paris?

3. Why does Lady Capulet think Paris will make a fine husband?

4. What does Juliet promise her mother?

5. Why is Romeo afraid to go to the banquet/ party?

Act 1, Scene 5
1. What happens to suddenly change Romeo’s sad mood?

2. When Tybalt is ready to seize Romeo and throw him out of the party, what does Capulet say to Tybalt?

3. Describe Romeo’s reaction when he learns that Juliet is a Capulet? Why does he feel that way?

4. What does Juliet say when she discovers who Romeo is? Explain what she means.

Act 2, Prologue and Scene 1
1. What difficulties will Romeo and Juliet face?

2. According to the Chorus, what will help them overcome their problems?
3. How does Romeo avoid his friends?

Act 2, Scene 2
1. Juliet says Romeo is not her enemy. What IS her enemy?

2. Why is Juliet worried about Romeo when she realizes he is hiding in her orchard?

3. What does Juliet do that embarrasses her?

4. What does Juliet fear about the declarations of love between her and Romeo?

5. What will the messenger Juliet sends to Romeo the next day find out?

Act 2, Scene 3
1. What does Friar Laurence say about the powers of natural plants and herbs?

2. What does Romeo ask the Friar to do?

3. Why does the Friar scold Romeo?

4. Even though he is less than happy about it, the Friar agrees to do as Romeo asks. Why?

Act 2, Scene 4
1. What does Mercutio think is in the letter Tybalt sent to Romeo?

2. What instructions does Romeo give the Nurse?
Act 2, Scenes 5-6
1. What does the Nurse admire about Romeo?

2. What is Romeo willing to risk in order to marry Juliet?

3. What advice does the Friar give to Romeo?

Act 3, Scene 1
1. How does Mercutio treat Tybalt when they meet?

2. Why does Romeo refuse to fight Tybalt?

3. After Mercutio is wounded, what does he say? Explain what he meant.

4. Why does the Prince say that he has a “personal interest” in this fight?

5. What punishment does the Prince give Romeo?

Act 3, Scene 2
1. What is the worst possible word (worse than death) in Juliet’s opinion and why?

2. How does the Nurse comfort Juliet?

Act 3, Scene 3
1. How does Romeo react to his punishment?

2. Why does the Friar think Romeo should feel fortunate?
3. What is the Friar’s advice to Romeo?

Act 3, Scenes 4-5
1. Explain why Romeo and Juliet would rather hear the nightingale than the lark.

2. As Romeo leaves, what does Juliet “see” that frightens her?

3. What does Lady Capulet say she will do to avenge Tybalt’s death?

4. What advice does the Nurse give to Juliet?

5. How does Juliet react to this advice?

Act 4, Scene 1
1. What does Juliet say she will do if the Friar doesn’t help her?

2. Describe the Friar’s plan.

Act 4, Scenes 2-3
1. How does Juliet explain her “attitude adjustment” to her parents?

2. What are Juliet’s fears regarding the Friar’s plans?

Act 4, Scenes 4-5
1. What are the Capulets’ (including the Nurse’s) reactions to the news in the morning?
2. How does the Friar comfort the mourners?

Act 5, Scene 1
1. Describe Romeo’s dream. What do you think it means?

2. Why does Romeo believe the pharmacist/apothecary will sell poison to him?

Act 5, Scenes 2-3
1. Explain why Friar John could not get to Mantua.

2. What happens when Paris tries to arrest Romeo?

3. How does Romeo feel about himself at this point in the story?

4. Why isn’t Lady Montague there?

5. What does the Prince mean when he says, “We’ve all been punished”?

6. What will Lord Capulet and Lord Montague do now?