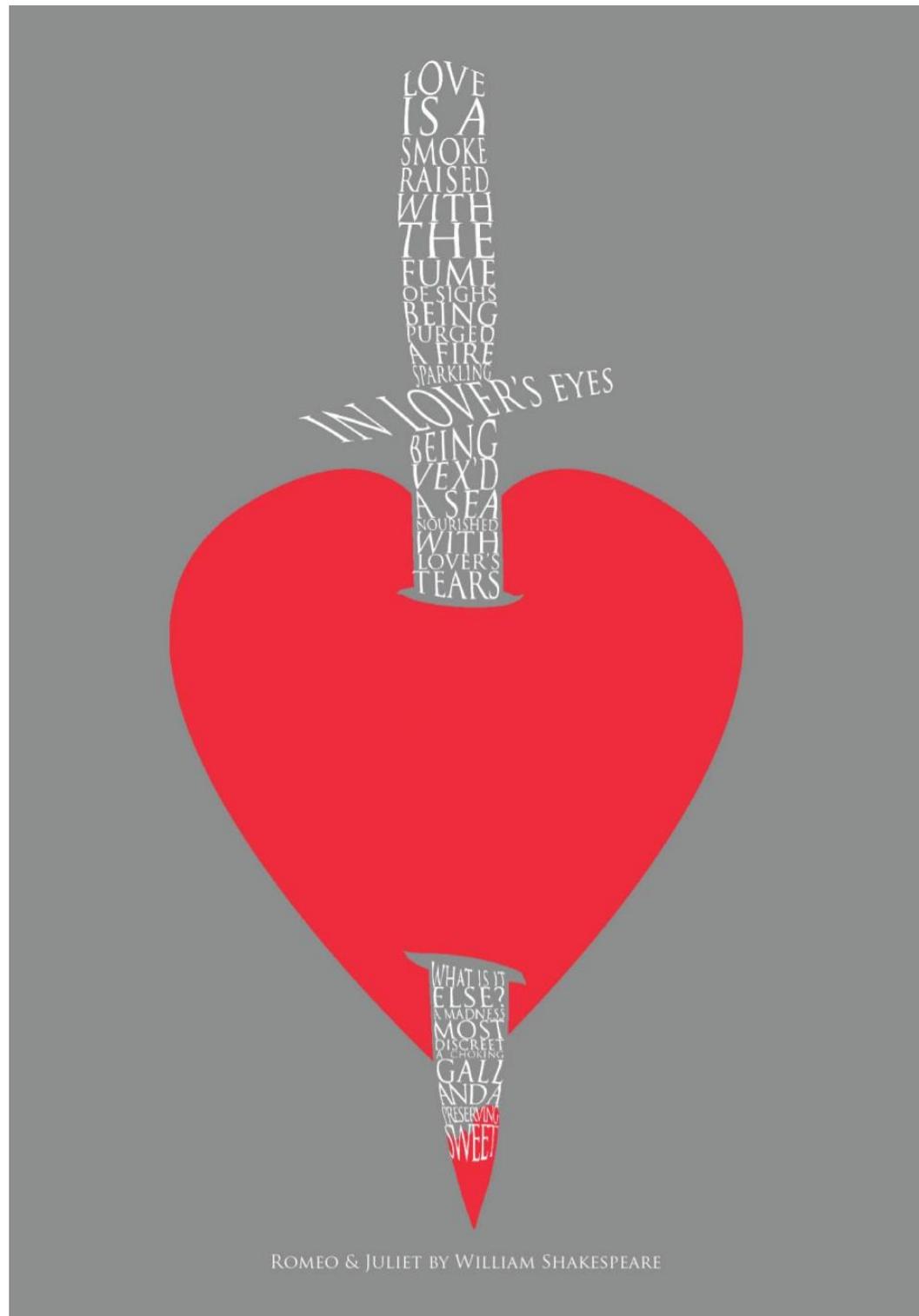
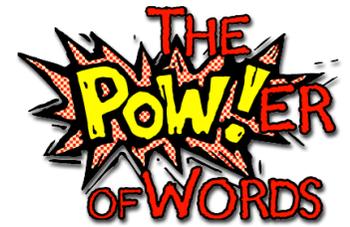


# ROMEO AND JULIET



# ANALYSIS EXTRACTS



## ROMEO

Infatuation  
Desperate  
Depressed  
Love sick  
Rash  
Loyal  
Loving  
Devoted  
Brooding  
Reckless  
Immature  
Selfish  
Revengeful  
Fickle  
Young  
Foolish  
Passionate  
Superficial  
Poetic  
Impulsive  
Idealist  
Affectionate  
Isolated  
Promiscuous  
Irrational  
Emotional

## JULIET

Young  
Sensitive  
Resourceful  
Challenging  
Demure  
Innocent  
Independent  
Loyal  
Courage  
Fortitude  
Clever  
Innocent  
Confident  
Naive  
Rebellious  
Idealist  
Sheltered  
Loving  
Capable  
Rational  
Rash  
Resolved  
Childish  
Impatient  
Impetuous  
Frivolous  
coddled

## MERCUTIO

Light-hearted  
Rage  
Violent  
Banter  
Courage  
Aggressive  
Loyal  
Devoted  
Bawdy  
Entertaining  
Funny  
Mocking  
Cynical  
Hostile  
Vulgar  
Antagonistic  
Courage

## BENVOLIO

Mild-mannered  
Well-intentioned  
Peacemaker  
Mature  
Sense  
Reason  
Mediator  
Compassionate  
Trustworthy  
Friend  
Counsellor  
Problem-solving  
Observant  
Stability  
Serious  
Faithful  
Sensitive  
Peaceful

## TYBALT

Macho  
Fiery  
Challenge  
Violent  
Unpredictable  
Aggressive  
Swordsman  
Angry  
Resentful  
Stubborn  
Protective  
Vengeful  
Active  
Malevolent  
Hot-headed  
Manipulative  
Antagonist

## **FRIAR**

## **LORD**

## **LADY**

## **NURSE**

## **LAWRENCE**

## **CAPULET**

## **CAPULET**

## **PARIS**

**Sexual banter  
Fickle  
Maternal  
Coarse  
Kind  
Loving  
Comic  
Bawdy  
Inappropriate  
Teasing  
Selfish  
Sentimental  
Protective  
Confidante**

**Wise  
Deception  
Trustworthy  
Dependable  
Secretive  
Respected  
Father-like  
Paternal  
Well-meaning  
Encouraging  
Naïve  
Meddling  
Concerned  
Generous**

**Harsh  
Cold  
Jovial  
Sociable  
Domineering  
Commanding  
Controlling  
Patriarchal  
Loving  
Caring  
Understanding**

**Unsupportive  
Cold  
Fierce  
Calculating  
Vain  
Neglectful  
Detached  
Uncompassionate  
Ineffectual  
Vengeful  
Disinterested  
Unloving**

**Suffers  
Genuine  
Affection  
Well-meaning  
Blind  
Egotistical  
Basic  
Conventional  
Noble**

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 1 Scene 1 – Romeo's Introduction

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

ROMEO  
Out of her favour, where I am in love.  
BENVOLIO  
Alas, that love, so gentle in his view,  
Should be so tyrannous and rough in proof!

ROMEO  
Alas, that love, whose view is muffled still,  
Should, without eyes, see pathways to his will!  
Where shall we dine? O me! What fray was here?  
Yet tell me not, for I have heard it all.  
Here is much to do with hate, but more with love.  
Why, then, O brawling love! O loving hate!  
O anything, of nothing first create!  
O heavy lightness! serious vanity!

Mis-shapen chaos of well-seeming forms!  
Feather of lead, bright smoke, cold fire,  
sick health!  
Still-waking sleep, that is not what it is!  
This love feel I, that feel no love in this.  
Dost thou not laugh?

BENVOLIO  
No, coz, I rather weep.

ROMEO  
Good heart, at what?

BENVOLIO  
At thy good heart's oppression.

ROMEO  
Why, such is love's transgression.  
Griefs of mine own lie heavy in my breast,  
Which thou wilt propagate, to have it prest  
With more of thine: this love that thou hast shown  
Doth add more grief to too much of mine own.  
Love is a smoke raised with the fume of sighs;  
Being purged, a fire sparkling in lovers' eyes;  
Being vex'd a sea nourish'd with lovers' tears:  
What is it else? a madness most discreet,  
A choking gall and a preserving sweet.  
Farewell, my coz.

**TASK #4** - *Alas, that love, so gentle in his view, should be so tyrannous and rough in proof!* – What is Benvolio suggesting about love here?

**TASK #2** – What are the audience's first impressions of Romeo? Underline words used by Romeo and Benvolio that may influence an audience's impression.

**TASK #5** – What does the repetition of 'O' suggest about how Romeo feels?

**TASK #3** – What is the relationship between Romeo and Benvolio like? How do you know this?

**TASK #6** – Identify the oxymorons in Romeo's speech. What do they reveal about Romeo's mental state?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 1 Scene 2 – Capulet's Introduction

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**PARIS**

Of honourable reckoning are you both;  
And pity 'tis you lived at odds so long.  
But now, my lord, what say you to my suit?

**CAPULET**

But saying o'er what I have said before:  
My child is yet a stranger in the world;  
She hath not seen the change of fourteen years,  
Let two more summers wither in their pride,  
Ere we may think her ripe to be a bride.

**PARIS**

Younger than she are happy mothers made.

**CAPULET**

And too soon marr'd are those so early made.  
The earth hath swallow'd all my hopes but she,  
She is the hopeful lady of my earth:  
But woo her, gentle Paris, get her heart,  
My will to her consent is but a part;  
An she agree, within her scope of choice  
Lies my consent and fair according voice.  
This night I hold an old accustom'd 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.  
At my poor house look to behold this night  
Earth-treading stars that make dark heaven light:  
Such comfort as do lusty young men feel  
When well-apparell'd April on the heel  
Of limping winter treads, even such delight  
Among fresh female buds shall you this night  
Inherit at my house; hear all, all see,  
And like her most whose merit most shall be:  
Which on more view, of many mine being one  
May stand in number, though in reckoning none,  
Come, go with me.

**TASK #4** – What is the audience's first impression of Paris?

**TASK #2** – Highlight the lines we could use to suggest that Capulet is a caring parent.

**TASK #5** – Are there any lines that might hint that Capulet sees Juliet as his property?

**TASK #3** – What does the line '*And too soon marr'd are those so early made*' suggest about how women were viewed in the Elizabethan era?

**TASK #6** – Why might Capulet be wary about who he wants to marry Juliet? Think about laws regarding females and property.

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 1 Scene 3

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**Nurse**

A man, young lady! lady, such a man  
As all the world--why, he's a man of wax.

**LADY CAPULET**

Verona's summer hath not such a flower.

**Nurse**

Nay, he's a flower; in faith, a very flower.

**LADY CAPULET**

What say you? can you love the gentleman?  
This night you shall behold him at our feast;  
Read o'er the volume of young Paris' face,  
And find delight writ there with beauty's pen;  
Examine every married lineament,  
And see how one another lends content  
And what obscured in this fair volume lies  
Find written in the margent of his eyes.  
This precious book of love, this unbound lover,  
To beautify him, only lacks a cover:  
The fish lives in the sea, and 'tis much pride  
For fair without the fair within to hide:  
That book in many's eyes doth share the glory,  
That in gold clasps locks in the golden story;  
So shall you share all that he doth possess,  
By having him, making yourself no less.

**Nurse**

No less! nay, bigger; women grow by men.

**LADY CAPULET**

Speak briefly, can you like of Paris' love?

**JULIET**

I'll look to like, if looking liking move:  
But no more deep will I endart mine eye  
Than your consent gives strength to make it fly.

**TASK #4** – Lady Capulet asks Juliet to 'speak briefly.' What do you think this shows about her?

**TASK #2** – Highlight any language used to describe Paris – what do you think it shows?

**TASK #5** – What does Juliet's reply tell us about her character?

**TASK #3** – What is Lady Capulet's main priority? How can you tell?

**TASK #6** – How can we relate this extract to context?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 1 Scene 4

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – Highlight any quotes that relate to the theme of fate. What words and techniques would you focus on?

**TASK #3** – What does Mercutio think of dreams? How can you relate this to his attitude towards love?

**ROMEO**

Peace, peace, Mercutio, peace!  
Thou talk'st of nothing.

**MERCUTIO**

True, I talk of dreams,  
Which are the children of an idle brain,  
Begot of nothing but vain fantasy,  
Which is as thin of substance as the air  
And more inconstant than the wind, who woos  
Even now the frozen bosom of the north,  
And, being anger'd, puffs away from thence,  
Turning his face to the dew-dropping south.

**BENVOLIO**

This wind, you talk of, blows us from ourselves;  
Supper is done, and we shall come too late.

**ROMEO**

I fear, too early: for 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.  
But He, that hath the steerage of my course,  
Direct my sail! On, lusty gentlemen.

**BENVOLIO**

Strike, drum.

**TASK #4** – How is Romeo's speech an example of foreshadowing?

**TASK #5** – Why do you think Romeo interrupts Mercutio's Queen Mab speech at this point?

**TASK #6** – What does this scene show us about the relationship between the three men?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 1 Scene 5

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**ROMEO**

O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright!  
It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night  
Like a rich jewel in an Ethiope's ear;  
Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear!  
So shows a snowy dove trooping with crows,  
As yonder lady o'er her fellows shows.  
The measure done, I'll watch her place of stand,  
And, touching hers, make blessed my rude hand.  
Did my heart love till now? forswear it, sight!  
For I ne'er saw true beauty till this night.

**TYBALT**

This, by his voice, should be a Montague.  
Fetch me my rapier, boy. What dares the slave  
Come hither, cover'd with an antic face,  
To fleer and scorn at our solemnity?  
Now, by the stock and honour of my kin,  
To strike him dead, I hold it not a sin.

**CAPULET**

Why, how now, kinsman! wherefore storm you so?

**TYBALT**

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

**CAPULET**

Young Romeo is it?

**TYBALT**

'Tis he, that villain Romeo.

**CAPULET**

Content thee, gentle coz, let him alone;  
He bears him like a portly gentleman;  
And, to say truth, Verona brags of him  
To be a virtuous and well-govern'd youth:  
I would not for the wealth of all the town  
Here in my house do him disparagement:  
Therefore be patient, take no note of him:  
It is my will, the which if thou respect,  
Show a fair presence and put off these frowns,  
And ill-beseeming semblance for a feast.

**TYBALT**

It fits, when such a villain is a guest:  
I'll not endure him.

**TASK #2** – What does the simile  
“Like a rich jewel in an Ethiope’s  
ear” suggest?

**TASK #3** – What does the  
juxtaposition show in the line ‘*So  
shows a snowy dove trooping with  
crows*’?

**TASK #4** – *A villain that is hither come in  
spite, to scorn at our solemnity this night.*  
Why does Tybalt think Romeo is at the  
party?

**TASK #5** – How would an audience in  
Shakespeare’s time react to Capulet’s  
decision to leave Romeo alone? See if you  
can link your ideas to social/historical  
context.

**TASK #6** – Complete single word analysis  
on the word ‘villain’. Why does Tybalt use  
this word several times to describe  
Romeo?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 1

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**MERCUTIO**

Nay, I'll conjure too.  
Romeo! humours! madman! passion! lover!  
Appear thou in the likeness of a sigh:  
Speak but one rhyme, and I am satisfied;  
Cry but 'Ay me!' pronounce but 'love' and 'dove;'  
Speak to my gossip Venus one fair word,  
One nick-name for her purblind son and heir,  
Young Adam Cupid, he that shot so trim,  
When King Cophetua loved the beggar-maid!  
He heareth not, he stirreth not, he moveth not;  
The ape is dead, and I must conjure him.  
I conjure thee by Rosaline's bright eyes,  
By her high forehead and her scarlet lip,  
By her fine foot, straight leg and quivering thigh  
And the demesnes that there adjacent lie,  
That in thy likeness thou appear to us!

**BENVOLIO**

And if he hear thee, thou wilt anger him.

**MERCUTIO**

This cannot anger him: 'twould anger him  
To raise a spirit in his mistress' circle  
Of some strange nature, letting it there stand  
Till she had laid it and conjured it down;  
That were some spite: my invocation  
Is fair and honest, and in his mistress' name  
I conjure only but to raise up him.

**BENVOLIO**

Come, he hath hid himself among these trees,  
To be consorted with the humorous night:  
Blind is his love and best befits the dark.

**MERCUTIO**

If love be blind, love cannot hit the mark.  
Now will he sit under a medlar tree,  
And wish his mistress were that kind of fruit  
As maids call medlars, when they laugh alone.  
Romeo, that she were, O, that she were  
An open et caetera, thou a poperin pear!  
Romeo, good night: I'll to my truckle-bed;  
This field-bed is too cold for me to sleep:  
Come, shall we go?

**BENVOLIO**

Go, then; for 'tis in vain  
To seek him here that means not to be found.

**TASK #4** – What is Mercutio's opinion of women? What do you think an Elizabethan audience would have thought of this?

**TASK #2** – What does Mercutio think that Romeo is doing with Rosaline? Highlight examples of language.

**TASK #5** – There is a lot of dark imagery in this extract – what does the dark represent?

**TASK #3** – Why do you think Mercutio reacts this way? How do you think he is feeling?

**TASK #6** – Why do you think Shakespeare included this scene? What does he want to show about the characters?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 2

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**ROMEO**

But, soft! what light through yonder window breaks?  
It is the east, and Juliet is the sun.  
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:  
Be not her maid, since she is envious;  
Her vestal livery is but sick and green  
And none but fools do wear it; cast it off.  
It is my lady, O, it is my love!  
O, that she knew she were!  
She speaks yet she says nothing: what of that?  
Her eye discourses; I will answer it.  
I am too bold, 'tis not to me she speaks:  
Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,  
Having some business, do entreat her eyes  
To twinkle in their spheres till they return.  
What if her eyes were there, they in her head?  
The brightness of her cheek would shame those stars,  
As daylight doth a lamp; her eyes in heaven  
Would through the airy region stream so bright  
That birds would sing and think it were not night.  
See, how she leans her cheek upon her hand!  
O, that I were a glove upon that hand,  
That I might touch that cheek!

**JULIET**

Ay me!

**ROMEO**

She speaks:  
O, speak again, bright angel! for thou art  
As glorious to this night, being o'er my head  
As is a winged messenger of heaven  
Unto the white-upturned wondering eyes  
Of mortals that fall back to gaze on him  
When he bestrides the lazy-pacing clouds  
And sails upon the bosom of the air.

**JULIET**

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.

**TASK #4** – '*O, speak again, bright angel*' – Why call Juliet an 'angel'? What does this suggest about how Romeo feels about her?

**TASK #2** – Highlight references to light and dark. Why does Romeo use this imagery?

**TASK #5** – What is Juliet willing to do in order to be with Romeo? What does this imply about her character?

**TASK #3** – Romeo delivers his speech in iambic pentameter. Why does he do this? How does iambic pentameter help Romeo express his love for Juliet?

**TASK #6** – This is a very poetic monologue. Can you find a metaphor which suggests that Romeo is entranced with Juliet? What is the effect?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 3

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

### ROMEO

Then plainly know my heart's dear love is set  
On the fair daughter of rich Capulet:  
As mine on hers, so hers is set on mine;  
And all combined, save what thou must combine  
By holy marriage: when and where and how  
We met, we woo'd and made exchange of vow,  
I'll tell thee as we pass; but this I pray,  
That thou consent to marry us to-day.

### FRIAR LAWRENCE

Holy Saint Francis, what a change is here!  
Is Rosaline, whom thou didst love so dear,  
So soon forsaken? young men's love then lies  
Not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes.  
Jesu Maria, what a deal of brine  
Hath wash'd thy sallow cheeks for Rosaline!  
How much salt water thrown away in waste,  
To season love, that of it doth not taste!  
The sun not yet thy sighs from heaven clears,  
Thy old groans ring yet in my ancient ears;  
Lo, here upon thy cheek the stain doth sit  
Of an old tear that is not wash'd off yet:  
If e'er thou wast thyself and these woes thine,  
Thou and these woes were all for Rosaline:  
And art thou changed? pronounce this sentence then,  
Women may fall, when there's no strength in men.

### ROMEO

Thou chid'st me oft for loving Rosaline.

### FRIAR LAWRENCE

For doting, not for loving, pupil mine.

### ROMEO

And bad'st me bury love.

### FRIAR LAWRENCE

Not in a grave,  
To lay one in, another out to have.

**TASK #4** – '*young men's love then lies  
Not truly in their hearts, but in their eyes.*'  
What does this quote suggest about what  
the Friar thinks about Romeo's 'love'?

**TASK #2** – Friar Lawrence speaks in  
rhyming couplets. Why do you think  
this is?

**TASK #5** – '*Women may fall, when there's  
no strength in men.*' What do you think  
the Friar means here?

**TASK #3** – What does this  
conversation show us about the  
relationship between the two men?

**TASK #6** – How can we tell that Romeo  
might often confide in the Friar?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 4

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – ‘*now art thou sociable, now art thou Romeo*’ – What does this show about their relationship?

**TASK #3** – What do you think of Mercutio’s attitude to women in this scene? What evidence might you use?

**MERCUTIO**

Why, is not this better now than groaning for love?  
now art thou sociable, now art thou Romeo; now art  
thou what thou art, by art as well as by nature:  
for this drivelling love is like a great natural,  
that runs lolling up and down to hide his bauble in a hole.

**BENVOLIO**

Stop there, stop there.

**MERCUTIO**

Thou desirest me to stop in my tale against the hair.

**BENVOLIO**

Thou wouldst else have made thy tale large.

**MERCUTIO**

O, thou art deceived; I would have made it short:  
for I was come to the whole depth of my tale; and  
meant, indeed, to occupy the argument no longer.

**ROMEO**

Here's goodly gear!

*Enter Nurse and PETER*

**MERCUTIO**

A sail, a sail!

**BENVOLIO**

Two, two; a shirt and a smock.

**Nurse**

Peter!

**PETER**

Anon!

**Nurse**

My fan, Peter.

**MERCUTIO**

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

**TASK #4** – What 3 adjectives might you use to describe Mercutio?

**TASK #5** – What do you think is the motivation behind Mercutio’s mockery?

**TASK #6** – Why do you think Shakespeare included this scene?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 5

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**JULIET**

Now, good sweet nurse,--O Lord, why look'st thou sad?  
Though news be sad, yet tell them merrily;  
If good, thou shamest the music of sweet news  
By playing it to me with so sour a face.

**Nurse**

I am a-weary, give me leave awhile:  
Fie, how my bones ache! what a jaunt have I had!

**JULIET**

I would thou hadst my bones, and I thy news:  
Nay, come, I pray thee, speak; good, good nurse, speak.

**Nurse**

Jesu, what haste? can you not stay awhile?  
Do you not see that I am out of breath?

**JULIET**

How art thou out of breath, when thou hast breath  
To say to me that thou art out of breath?  
The excuse that thou dost make in this delay  
Is longer than the tale thou dost excuse.  
Is thy news good, or bad? answer to that;  
Say either, and I'll stay the circumstance:  
Let me be satisfied, is't good or bad?

**Nurse**

Well, you have made a simple choice; you know not  
how to choose a man: Romeo! no, not he; though his  
face be better than any man's, yet his leg excels  
all men's; and for a hand, and a foot, and a body,  
though they be not to be talked on, yet they are  
past compare: he is not the flower of courtesy,  
but, I'll warrant him, as gentle as a lamb. Go thy  
ways, wench; serve God. What, have you dined at home?

**JULIET**

No, no: but all this did I know before.  
What says he of our marriage? what of that?

**Nurse**

Lord, how my head aches! what a head have I!  
It beats as it would fall in twenty pieces.  
My back o' t' other side,--O, my back, my back!  
Beshrew your heart for sending me about,  
To catch my death with jaunting up and down!

**JULIET**

I' faith, I am sorry that thou art not well.  
Sweet, sweet, sweet nurse, tell me, what says my love?

**Nurse**

Your love says, like an honest gentleman, and a  
courteous, and a kind, and a handsome, and, I  
warrant, a virtuous,--Where is your mother?

**TASK #2** – What does this scene show us about Juliet?

**TASK #3** – Highlight examples of the language the Nurse uses to describe Romeo. What does it show about her character?

**TASK #4** – What techniques does Juliet deploy in order to get the information that she wants from the Nurse?

**TASK #5** – What do you think Shakespeare is suggesting about the haste of the marriage?

**TASK #6** – What does this scene show us about the relationship between the two? Why?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 2 Scene 6

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

These violent delights have violent ends  
And in their triumph die, like fire and powder,  
Which as they kiss consume: the sweetest honey  
Is loathsome in his own deliciousness  
And in the taste confounds the appetite:  
Therefore love moderately; long love doth so;  
Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.

*Enter JULIET*

Here comes the lady: O, so light a foot  
Will ne'er wear out the everlasting flint:  
A lover may bstride the gossamer  
That idles in the wanton summer air,  
And yet not fall; so light is vanity.

**JULIET**

Good even to my ghostly confessor.

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

Romeo shall thank thee, daughter, for us both.

**JULIET**

As much to him, else is his thanks too much.

**ROMEO**

Ah, Juliet, if the measure of thy joy  
Be heap'd like mine and that thy skill be more  
To blazon it, then sweeten with thy breath  
This neighbour air, and let rich music's tongue  
Unfold the imagined happiness that both  
Receive in either by this dear encounter.

**JULIET**

Conceit, more rich in matter than in words,  
Braggs of his substance, not of ornament:  
They are but beggars that can count their worth;  
But my true love is grown to such excess  
I cannot sum up sum of half my wealth.

**TASK #4** – '*Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.*' – How might this foreshadow later events?

**TASK #2** – '*These violent delights have violent ends*' – What is the significance of this line? Techniques?

**TASK #5** – What is interesting about the imagery that Juliet uses to describe love?

**TASK #3** – '*the sweetest honey Is loathsome in his own deliciousness And in the taste confounds the appetite*' – Why do you think the Friar says this?

**TASK #6** – What impact do you think this scene would have had on a Shakespearean audience?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 3 Scene 1

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**ROMEO**

Draw, Benvolio; beat down their weapons.  
Gentlemen, for shame, forbear this outrage!  
Tybalt, Mercutio, the prince expressly hath  
Forbidden bandying in Verona streets:  
Hold, Tybalt! good Mercutio!

**MERCUTIO**

I am hurt.  
A plague o' both your houses! I am sped.  
Is he gone, and hath nothing?

**BENVOLIO**

What, art thou hurt?

**MERCUTIO**

Ay, ay, a scratch, a scratch; marry, 'tis enough.  
Where is my page? Go, villain, fetch a surgeon.

**TASK #2** – Why is 'scratch' such a strange word to describe what has happened to Mercutio?

**ROMEO**

Courage, man; the hurt cannot be much.

**MERCUTIO**

No, 'tis not so deep as a well, nor so wide as a church-door; but 'tis enough, 'twill serve: ask for me to-morrow, and you shall find me a grave man. I am peppered, I warrant, for this world. A plague o' both your houses! 'Zounds, a dog, a rat, a mouse, a cat, to scratch a man to death! a braggart, a rogue, a villain, that fights by the book of arithmetic! Why the devil came you between us? I was hurt under your arm.

**ROMEO**

I thought all for the best.

**MERCUTIO**

Help me into some house, Benvolio,  
Or I shall faint. A plague o' both your houses!  
They have made worms' meat of me: I have it,  
And soundly too: your houses!  
*Exeunt MERCUTIO and BENVOLIO*

**ROMEO**

This gentleman, the prince's near ally,  
My very friend, hath got his mortal hurt  
In my behalf; my reputation stain'd  
With Tybalt's slander,—Tybalt, that an hour  
Hath been my kinsman! O sweet Juliet,  
Thy beauty hath made me effeminate  
And in my temper soften'd valour's steel!

**TASK #3** – What is the ambiguity of 'ask for me tomorrow, and you shall find me a grave man'?

**TASK #4** – What is the difference between who Mercutio blames and who Romeo blames in this scene?

**TASK #5** – Romeo says that love has made him 'effeminate' and softened his masculine 'steel' – what are the connotations of the two words?

**TASK #6** – How can we relate Romeo's reaction in this scene to the context of the Elizabethan era?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 3 Scene 2

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**Nurse**

Tybalt is gone, and Romeo banished;  
Romeo that kill'd him, he is banished.

**JULIET**

O God! did Romeo's hand shed Tybalt's blood?

**Nurse**

It did, it did; alas the day, it did!

**JULIET**

O serpent heart, hid with a flowering face!  
Did ever dragon keep so fair a cave?  
Beautiful tyrant! fiend angelical!  
Dove-feather'd raven! wolvis-ravens lamb!  
Despised substance of divinest show!  
Just opposite to what thou justly seem'st,  
A damned saint, an honourable villain!  
O nature, what hadst thou to do in hell,  
When thou didst bower the spirit of a fiend  
In moral paradise of such sweet flesh?  
Was ever book containing such vile matter  
So fairly bound? O that deceit should dwell  
In such a gorgeous palace!

**Nurse**

There's no trust,  
No faith, no honesty in men; all perjured,  
All forsworn, all naught, all dissemblers.  
Ah, where's my man? give me some aqua vitae:  
These griefs, these woes, these sorrows make me old.  
Shame come to Romeo!

**JULIET**

Blister'd be thy tongue  
For such a wish! he was not born to shame:  
Upon his brow shame is ashamed to sit;  
For 'tis a throne where honour may be crown'd  
Sole monarch of the universal earth.  
O, what a beast was I to chide at him!

**TASK #4** – What view of men is the Nurse expressing?

**TASK #2** – Highlight the oxymorons that Juliet uses. Why is she using these oxymorons in her description of Romeo?

**TASK #5** – Do you think Juliet's treatment of the Nurse is fair?

**TASK #3** – What do you think of the Nurses's reaction to the news?

**TASK #6** – Whose side does Juliet ultimately take? Why is this interesting?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 3 Scene 3

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – Which words do you think best describe Romeo's attitude in the extract? Why?

Sad    angry    despondent

Self-pitying    ungrateful

petulant

**TASK #3** – How does the Friar react to Romeo?

### FRIAR LAWRENCE

Hence from Verona art thou banished:  
Be patient, for the world is broad and wide.

### ROMEO

There is no world without Verona walls,  
But purgatory, torture, hell itself.  
Hence-banished is banish'd from the world,  
And world's exile is death: then banished,  
Is death mis-term'd: calling death banishment,  
Thou cutt'st my head off with a golden axe,  
And smilest upon the stroke that murders me.

### FRIAR LAWRENCE

O deadly sin! O rude unthankfulness!  
Thy fault our law calls death; but the kind prince,  
Taking thy part, hath rush'd aside the law,  
And turn'd that black word death to banishment:  
This is dear mercy, and thou seest it not.

### ROMEO

'Tis torture, and not mercy: heaven is here,  
Where Juliet lives; and every cat and dog  
And little mouse, every unworthy thing,  
Live here in heaven and may look on her;  
But Romeo may not: more validity,  
More honourable state, more courtship lives  
In carrion-flies than Romeo: they my seize  
On the white wonder of dear Juliet's hand  
And steal immortal blessing from her lips,  
Who even in pure and vestal modesty,  
Still blush, as thinking their own kisses sin;  
But Romeo may not; he is banished:  
Flies may do this, but I from this must fly:  
They are free men, but I am banished.  
And say'st thou yet that exile is not death?  
Hadst thou no poison mix'd, no sharp-ground knife,  
No sudden mean of death, though ne'er so mean,  
But 'banished' to kill me?--'banished'?  
O friar, the damned use that word in hell;

**TASK #4** – What is Romeo jealous of?

**TASK #5** – Why do you think Romeo refers to himself in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person?

**TASK #6** – What do you think of the reactions of both characters in this scene?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 3 Scene 4

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**CAPULET**

Things have fall'n out, sir, so unluckily,  
That we have had no time to move our daughter:  
Look you, she loved her kinsman Tybalt dearly,  
And so did I:--Well, we were born to die.  
'Tis very late, she'll not come down to-night:  
I promise you, but for your company,  
I would have been a-bed an hour ago.

**PARIS**

These times of woe afford no time to woo.  
Madam, good night: commend me to your daughter.

**LADY CAPULET**

I will, and know her mind early to-morrow;  
To-night she is mew'd up to her heaviness.

**CAPULET**

Sir Paris, I will make a desperate tender  
Of my child's love: I think she will be ruled  
In all respects by me; nay, more, I doubt it not.  
Wife, go you to her ere you go to bed;  
Acquaint her here of my son Paris' love;  
And bid her, mark you me, on Wednesday next--  
But, soft! what day is this?

**PARIS**

Monday, my lord,

**CAPULET**

Monday! ha, ha! Well, Wednesday is too soon,  
O' Thursday let it be: o' Thursday, tell her,  
She shall be married to this noble earl.  
Will you be ready? do you like this haste?  
We'll keep no great ado,--a friend or two;  
For, hark you, Tybalt being slain so late,  
It may be thought we held him carelessly,  
Being our kinsman, if we revel much:  
Therefore we'll have some half a dozen friends,  
And there an end. But what say you to Thursday?

**PARIS**

My lord, I would that Thursday were to-morrow.

**TASK #4** – '*Well, we were born to die*' – what do you think of this line?

**TASK #2** – '*I think she will be ruled In all respects by me*' – what is Capulet saying? How is this different to his previous conversation with Paris?

**TASK #5** – What do you think of the fact that Paris is wanting to go ahead with the marriage despite family events?

**TASK #3** – Which words would you use to describe Capulet in this scene and why?

arrogant	ignorant
overbearing	practical
caring	responsible

**TASK #6** – How can we relate this scene to the context of the Elizabethan era?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 3 Scene 5

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – Underline all of Capulet's insults that he uses towards Juliet. How would an audience react? Consider both Shakespearean and modern audiences.

**TASK #3** – '*I would the fool were married to her grave!*' – What is Lady Capulet's reaction? Why do you think this is?

**LADY CAPULET:** Ay, sir; but she will none, she gives you thanks. I would the fool were married to her grave!

**CAPULET:** Soft! take me with you, take me with you, wife.

How! will she none? doth she not give us thanks?

Is she not proud? doth she not count her blest,

Unworthy as she is, that we have wrought

So worthy a gentleman to be her bridegroom?

**JULIET**

Not proud, you have; but thankful, that you have:

Proud can I never be of what I hate;

But thankful even for hate, that is meant love.

**CAPULET**

How now, how now, chop-logic! What is this?

'Proud,' and 'I thank you,' and 'I thank you not;'

And yet 'not proud,' mistress minion, you,

Thank me no thankings, nor, proud me no prouds,

But fettle your fine joints 'gainst Thursday next,

To go with Paris to Saint Peter's Church,

Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither.

Out, you green-sickness carrion! out, you baggage!

You tallow-face!

**LADY CAPULET**

Fie, fie! what, are you mad?

**JULIET**

Good father, I beseech you on my knees,

Hear me with patience but to speak a word.

**CAPULET**

Hang thee, young baggage! disobedient wretch!

I tell thee what: get thee to church o' Thursday,

Or never after look me in the face:

Speak not, reply not, do not answer me;

My fingers itch. Wife, we scarce thought us blest

That God had lent us but this only child;

But now I see this one is one too much,

And that we have a curse in having her:

Out on her, hilding!

**TASK #4** – What does the phrase, '*My fingers itch*' suggest?

**TASK #5** – How does this scene link to a patriarchal society?

**TASK #6** – How does Capulet's reaction here contrast with his attitude towards Juliet at the beginning of Act 1, Scene 2?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 4 Scene 1

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – *'Be not so long to speak; I long to die  
If what thou speak'st speak not of remedy.'*

What are the repetitions in these lines?  
What is the effects of these?

**TASK #3** – What is Juliet's attitude to the Friar? Why do you think that is?

**JULIET**

Tell me not, friar, that thou hear'st 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.  
God join'd my heart and Romeo's, thou our hands;  
And ere this hand, by thee to Romeo seal'd,  
Shall be the label to another deed,  
Or my true heart with treacherous revolt  
Turn to another, this shall slay them both:  
Therefore, out of thy long-experienced time,  
Give me some present counsel, or, behold,  
'Twixt my extremes and me this bloody knife  
Shall play the umpire, arbitrating that  
Which the commission of thy years and art  
Could to no issue of true honour bring.  
Be not so long to speak; I long to die,  
If what thou speak'st speak not of remedy.

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

Hold, daughter: I do spy a kind of hope,  
Which craves as desperate an execution.  
As that is desperate which we would prevent.  
If, rather than to marry County Paris,  
Thou hast the strength of will to slay thyself,  
Then is it likely thou wilt undertake  
A thing like death to chide away this shame,  
That copes with death himself to scape from it:  
And, if thou darest, I'll give thee remedy.

**JULIET**

O, bid me leap, rather than marry Paris,  
From off the battlements of yonder tower;  
Or walk in thievish ways; or bid me lurk  
Where serpents are; chain me with roaring bears;  
Or shut me nightly in a charnel-house,  
O'er-cover'd quite with dead men's rattling bones,  
With reeky shanks and yellow chapless skulls;  
Or bid me go into a new-made grave  
And hide me with a dead man in his shroud;  
Things that, to hear them told, have made me tremble;  
And I will do it without fear or doubt,  
To live an unstain'd wife to my sweet love.

**TASK #4** – What is the Friar's reaction?  
Why do you think this is?

**TASK #5** – Highlight all the things that Juliet says she would rather do. What does this show about her character?

**TASK #6** – *'I do spy a kind of hope'*  
Why is this quote ironic?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 4 Scene 2

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – ‘Where I have learn'd me to repent the sin Of disobedient opposition’ – what type of language does Juliet use here? Why?

**TASK #3** – Which words would you choose to describe Juliet in this scene? Why?

Determined      headstrong

Cunning          loyal

manipulative

**CAPULET**

How now, my headstrong! where have you been gadding?

**JULIET**

Where I have learn'd me to repent the sin  
Of disobedient opposition  
To you and your behests, and am enjoin'd  
By holy Laurence to fall prostrate here,  
And beg your pardon: pardon, I beseech you!  
Henceforward I am ever ruled by you.

**CAPULET**

Send for the county; go tell him of this:  
I'll have this knot knit up to-morrow morning.

**JULIET**

I met the youthful lord at Laurence' cell;  
And gave him what becomed love I might,  
Not step o'er the bounds of modesty.

**CAPULET**

Why, I am glad on't; this is well: stand up:  
This is as't should be. Let me see the county;  
Ay, marry, go, I say, and fetch him hither.  
Now, afore God! this reverend holy friar,  
Our whole city is much bound to him.

**JULIET**

Nurse, will you go with me into my closet,  
To help me sort such needful ornaments  
As you think fit to furnish me to-morrow?

**LADY CAPULET**

No, not till Thursday; there is time enough.

**CAPULET**

Go, nurse, go with her: we'll to church to-morrow.

**TASK #4** – What do you think of Capulet's behaviour here?

**TASK #5** – ‘this reverend holy friar, Our whole city is much bound to him.’ – Why is this ironic?

**TASK #6** – How could we relate this scene to context?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 4 Scene 3

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**JULIET**

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:  
Nurse! What should she do here?  
My dismal scene I needs must act alone.  
Come, vial.  
What if this mixture do not work at all?  
Shall I be married then to-morrow morning?  
No, no: this shall forbid it: lie thou there.

*(laying down her dagger)*

What if it be a poison, which the friar  
Subtly hath minister'd to have me dead,  
Lest in this marriage he should be dishonour'd,  
Because he married me before to Romeo?  
I fear it is: and yet, methinks, it should not,  
For he hath still been tried a holy man.  
How if, when I am laid into the tomb,  
I wake before the time that Romeo  
Come to redeem me? there's a fearful point!  
Shall I not, then, be stifled in the vault,  
To whose foul mouth no healthsome air breathes in,  
And there die strangled ere my Romeo comes?  
Or, if I live, is it not very like,  
The horrible conceit of death and night,  
Together with the terror of the place,--  
As in a vault, an ancient receptacle,  
Where, for these many hundred years, the bones  
Of all my buried ancestors are packed:  
Where bloody Tybalt, yet but green in earth,  
Lies festering in his shroud; where, as they say,  
At some hours in the night spirits resort;--  
Alack, alack, is it not like that I,  
So early waking, what with loathsome smells,  
And shrieks like mandrakes' torn out of the earth,  
That living mortals, hearing them, run mad:--  
O, if I wake, shall I not be distraught,  
Environed with all these hideous fears?  
And madly play with my forefather's joints?  
And pluck the mangled Tybalt from his shroud?  
And, in this rage, with some great kinsman's bone,  
As with a club, dash out my desperate brains?  
O, look! methinks I see my cousin's ghost  
Seeking out Romeo, that did spit his body  
Upon a rapier's point: stay, Tybalt, stay!  
Romeo, I come! this do I drink to thee.

**TASK #4** – What lines show that Juliet doubts the Friar? Why might that be?

**TASK #2** – Highlight 3 lines that show that Juliet is frightened. Why?

**TASK #5** – What do the types of things that Juliet is afraid of show about her level of maturity?

**TASK #3** – Highlight 2 lines that you think show Juliet's strength and resilience. Why?

**TASK #6** – Why might an Elizabethan audience also find Juliet's worries frightening?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 4 Scene 4

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**TASK #2** – ‘Spare not for the cost’ – What does this line tell us about Capulet?

**TASK #3** – What do you think of the way the Nurse speaks to Capulet?

**CAPULET**

Come, stir, stir, stir! the second cock hath crow'd,  
The curfew-bell hath rung, 'tis three o'clock:  
Look to the baked meats, good Angelica:  
Spare not for the cost.

**Nurse**

Go, you cot-quean, go,  
Get you to bed; faith, You'll be sick to-morrow  
For this night's watching.

**CAPULET**

No, not a whit: what! I have watch'd ere now  
All night for lesser cause, and ne'er been sick.

**LADY CAPULET**

Ay, you have been a mouse-hunt in your time;  
But I will watch you from such watching now.

*Exeunt LADY CAPULET and Nurse*

**CAPULET**

A jealous hood, a jealous hood!

*Enter three or four Servingmen, with spits, logs, and baskets*

Now, fellow,  
What's there?

**First Servant**

Things for the cook, sir; but I know not what.

**CAPULET**

Make haste, make haste.

**TASK #4** – ‘Ay, you have been a mouse-hunt in your time’ – What does this quote tell us about Lord Capulet's past?

**TASK #5** – How does this scene juxtapose with the previous scene?

**TASK #6** – Why do you think Shakespeare included this scene?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 4 Scene 5

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**LADY CAPULET**

What noise is here?

**Nurse**

O lamentable day!

**LADY CAPULET**

What is the matter?

**Nurse**

Look, look! O heavy day!

**LADY CAPULET**

O me, O me! My child, my only life,  
Revive, look up, or I will die with thee!  
Help, help! Call help.

*Enter CAPULET*

**CAPULET**

For shame, bring Juliet forth; her lord is come.

**Nurse**

She's dead, deceased, she's dead; alack the day!

**LADY CAPULET**

Alack the day, she's dead, she's dead, she's dead!

**CAPULET**

Ha! let me see her: out, alas! she's cold:  
Her blood is settled, and her joints are stiff;  
Life and these lips have long been separated:  
Death lies on her like an untimely frost  
Upon the sweetest flower of all the field.

**Nurse**

O lamentable day!

**LADY CAPULET**

O woful time!

**CAPULET**

Death, that hath ta'en her hence to make me wail,  
Ties up my tongue, and will not let me speak.

**TASK #4** – What do you think of Lady Capulet's reaction? What was one of the last things she said to Juliet before this scene?

**TASK #2** – What words would you use to describe the mourners in this scene? Why?

Heartfelt	artificial
Poetic	unexpected
In character	out of character

**TASK #5** – 'My child, my only life' – Where in the play have we seen Capulet use a similar line?

**TASK #3** – Highlight any lines where death is personified. Why is this?

**TASK #6** – Who do you think is the most genuine in this scene? Why?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 5 Scene 1

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

News from Verona!--How now, Balthasar!  
Dost thou not bring me letters from the friar?  
How doth my lady? Is my father well?  
How fares my Juliet? that I ask again;  
For nothing can be ill, if she be well.

**BALTHASAR**

Then she is well, and nothing can be ill:  
Her body sleeps in Capel's 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:  
O, pardon me for bringing these ill news,  
Since you did leave it for my office, sir.

**ROMEO**

Is it even so? then I defy you, stars!  
Thou know'st my lodging: get me ink and paper,  
And hire post-horses; I will hence to-night.

**BALTHASAR**

I do beseech you, sir, have patience:  
Your looks are pale and wild, and do import  
Some misadventure.

**ROMEO**

Tush, thou art deceived:  
Leave me, and do the thing I bid thee do.  
Hast thou no letters to me from the friar?

**BALTHASAR**

No, my good lord.

**ROMEO**

No matter: get thee gone,  
And hire those horses; I'll be with thee straight.

*Exit BALTHASAR*

Well, Juliet, I will lie with thee to-night.  
Let's see for means: O mischief, thou art swift  
To enter in the thoughts of desperate men!

**TASK #4** – What does Romeo blame?

**TASK #5** – What is Romeo planning to do?

**TASK #6** – How does this scene confirm our understanding of Romeo's impulsive nature?

**TASK #2** – How is dramatic irony used to make the situation more tragic here?

**TASK #3** – What does Romeo's use of rhetorical questions suggest about his state of mind?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 5 Scene 2

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

Who bare my letter, then, to Romeo?

**FRIAR JOHN**

I could not send it,--here it is again,--  
Nor get a messenger to bring it thee,  
So fearful were they of infection.

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

Unhappy fortune! by my brotherhood,  
The letter was not nice but full of charge  
Of dear import, and the neglecting it  
May do much danger. Friar John, go hence;  
Get me an iron crow, and bring it straight  
Unto my cell.

**FRIAR JOHN**

Brother, I'll go and bring it thee.

*Exit*

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

Now must I to the monument alone;  
Within three hours will fair Juliet wake:  
She will beshrew me much that Romeo  
Hath had no notice of these accidents;  
But I will write again to Mantua,  
And keep her at my cell till Romeo come;  
Poor living corse, closed in a dead man's tomb!

**TASK #4** – 'May do much danger' – What is the danger?

**TASK #2** – Why couldn't Friar John deliver the letter?

**TASK #5** – What does the Friar realise that he has to do?

**TASK #3** – What line shows that the Friar also blames chance and fate?

**TASK #6** – What do you think Friar Lawrence is most worried about at this point in the play? Why?

## KEY EXTRACT - Romeo and Juliet, Act 5 Scene 3

**TASK #1** – What is happening in this extract?

**FRIAR LAWRENCE**

I hear some noise. Lady, come from that nest  
Of death, contagion, and unnatural sleep:  
A greater power than we can contradict  
Hath thwarted our intents. Come, come away.  
Thy husband in thy bosom there lies dead;  
And Paris too. Come, I'll dispose of thee  
Among a sisterhood of holy nuns:  
Stay not to question, for the watch is coming;  
Come, go, good Juliet,  
I dare no longer stay.

**JULIET**

Go, get thee hence, for I will not away.

*Exit FRIAR LAWRENCE*

What's here? a cup, closed in my true love's hand?  
Poison, I see, hath been his timeless end:  
O churl! drunk all, and left no friendly drop  
To help me after? I will kiss thy lips;  
Haply some poison yet doth hang on them,  
To make die with a restorative.

*Kisses him*

Thy lips are warm.

**First Watchman**

[Within] Lead, boy: which way?

**JULIET**

Yea, noise? then I'll be brief. O happy dagger!

*Snatching ROMEO's dagger*

This is thy sheath;

*Stabs herself*

there rust, and let me die.

**TASK #4** – How is juxtaposition used in the quotation, 'O happy dagger!' What is Juliet saying here?

**TASK #2** – What does the Friar say that Juliet should do?

**TASK #5** – How does this scene add to the tension that has already been built with Romeo's final moments?

**TASK #3** – How does Shakespeare use language techniques to convey Juliet's confusion?

**TASK #6** – How does this scene encapsulate the genre of tragedy? Explain with a particular focus on language in Juliet's dialogue.