

Activity Sheet - The Prologue

Read the speech and annotate to answer the following questions:

- WHO is the play about?
- WHAT is the play about?
- WHEN is the play set?
- WHERE is the play set?
- WHY does the action of the play happen?
- HOW does it end?

The Prologue

Two households, both alike in dignity,
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,
From **ancient grudge break to new mutiny**,
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.
From forth the fatal loins of these two foes
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;
Whose misadventured piteous overthrows
Do **with their death bury their parents' strife.**
The fearful passage of their death-mark'd love,
And the continuance of their parents' rage,
Which, but their children's end, nought could remove,
Is now the two hours' traffic of our stage;
The which if you with patient ears attend,
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.

Glossary

From forth the fatal loins: gave birth to.

Star-cross'd: ill-destined.

Misadventured: unfortunate.

Overthrows: disasters.

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