

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Honors English 9: Summer Reading Study Guides

### ROMEO AND JULIET-William Shakespeare

#### Summer Reading Guide

William Shakespeare's classic love story, Romeo and Juliet, is between two individuals from feuding families in Verona. The play covers the tragic conflicts caused by this relationship. This study guide on Romeo and Juliet should be completed and ready to hand in on the second day of school.

1. Write a paragraph describing Mercutio or Tybalt using at least five of the words from this list. Give examples and texts to show what the character like.

Adieu	rancor
Poultice	scurvy
Knave	perjury
Intercession	prorogued
Beshrew	shrive
Valor	chide
Herald	abhor

2. It's been an eventful day for Juliet. Assume that she sits down to write an entry in her diary immediately after the Sunday evening party (end of Act I).

Write Juliet's entry for her. First, evaluate the events of the day that she might consider important. Then arrange these events in the order that Juliet might discuss them in her diary. Be sure that the tone and content of the diary is keeping with Juliet's personality--polite and obedient yet emotional and strong-willed.

3. Characterize Lord and Lady Capulet. Explain whether or not you approve of their parenting styles. Give specific examples and texts to justify your opinion of each.

4. Choose Friar Laurence, the Nurse, or Prince Escalus of Verona to accept responsibility for the deaths of the Paris, Romeo, and Juliet. Explain why the person is at fault and suggest an acceptable punishment for that person based on what you can research out about the church or government of the time of the play. Use texts to prove the person's guilt.

5. Give three examples of Romeo and Juliet's maturity. Include actual quotes to support your points.

6. Give three examples of Romeo and Juliet's immaturity. Include actual quotes to support your points.

7. Using the famous balcony scene in Act II, discuss what the text says about youth. What are they like? Why? Give examples.

8. Define Irony. Explain several ways in which the marriage to Paris and preparations for the wedding feast are create irony in the play.

9. Evaluate the actions of each of the following characters based on the graveyard scene in Act 5 scene 3.

Paris

Romeo

Juliet

10. Research out a famous feud in history. Explain how this feud parallels the one portrayed in Romeo and Juliet. Give examples from the play as well as from your research.

11. Shakespeare's language has inspired people for over 400 years. It is quoted, referenced, and remembered. Choose three quotes from the play that you found to be particularly interesting. Write a brief paragraph responding to what the quote says to you.

12. Write a paragraph defining love as it is portrayed in Romeo and Juliet. Include texts to show your characterization.