

Romeo and Juliet Study Questions

Directions: DON'T WRITE on this paper. Instead, use it to quiz yourself (or have someone else quiz you), and then check your answers against the key. Use these questions and answers to quiz yourself for the RJ test and for the Midterm.

Act 1 Questions

1. What format of poetry is the prologue of *Romeo and Juliet*?
2. What is the purpose of the prologue?
3. What is a "sonnet"?
4. How many lines are in a "sonnet"?
5. How many lines are in a "quatrain"?

6. What is the "rhyme scheme" of a "sonnet"?
7. What is "blank verse"?
8. How many syllables are in one line of "blank verse"?
9. What is an "iambic foot"?
10. Who are Sampson and Gregory?

11. What do Sampson and Gregory do?
12. Where does this story take place?
13. Who is responsible for maintaining law in the city?
14. What will be the punishment for fighting in the streets again?
15. Who is Benvolio?

16. Who is Rosaline?
17. Why does Benvolio want Romeo to go to the Capulet party?
18. Why does Romeo want to go to the Capulet party?
19. Who is Tybalt?
20. How can Tybalt's personality be described?

21. Why does Lord Capulet let Romeo stay at his party?
22. If you're asked to "summarize" a piece of text, what should you do?
23. How can Benvolio's role in the story be described?
24. What is a "stage direction" in a play?
25. When Romeo sees Juliet for the first time, what happens to him?

Act 2 Questions

26. What is a "monologue"?
27. What is a "soliloquy"?
28. What is a "paraphrase"?
29. What is a modern paraphrase of the question "wherefore art thou Romeo"?
30. What is the most important thing that happens in Act 2?

31. If you read "blank verse" out loud, where should you pause your voice?
32. Who is Friar Lawrence?
33. How can Friar Lawrence be described?
34. Who does Juliet send to Romeo as her messenger?
35. What is the Nurse's job?

36. Who is Mercutio?
37. How can Mercutio be described?
38. Why does Friar Lawrence agree to marry Romeo and Juliet?
39. What is it called when Juliet speaks her feelings out loud to herself while standing on her balcony?

40. Who wrote the letter that Benvolio and Mercutio talk about?
41. What did the letter say?
42. What advice does Friar Lawrence give Romeo after Romeo says he wants to marry Juliet?

Act 3 Questions

43. What does Romeo mean when he says: "This day's black fate on more days doth depend; This but begins the woe others must end?"
44. What is the Prince's punishment for Romeo for killing Tybalt?
45. Why does the Prince lessen Romeo's punishment from what it *should have been*—death?
46. How does Romeo feel when he finds out what his punishment is for killing Tybalt?
47. If you are asked to "paraphrase" a piece of text, what should you do?
48. What surprising thing does Lord Capulet decide while talking to Paris?
49. How does Lord Capulet react when Juliet says "no" to him about Paris?
50. How does Juliet feel about the Nurse at the end of Act 3?
51. What has the Nurse done at the end of Act 3 to make Juliet feel this way?
52. What does Juliet decide to do at the end of Act 3 as far as her relationship with the Nurse is concerned?

Act 4 Questions

53. What is "dramatic irony"?
54. What is an "aside"?
55. What is Juliet willing to do to avoid marrying Paris?
56. What is Friar Lawrence's plan to help Juliet?
57. What skill does Friar Lawrence have that will make his plan possible?
58. What is "comic relief"?
59. What does Lord Capulet decide to do when Juliet tells him that she'll marry Paris in two days?
60. What is a "pun"?
61. What 3 things are Juliet afraid will happen when she gets ready to take the Friar's sleeping potion?

Act 5 Questions

62. Who is Balthasar?
63. What does Balthasar tell Romeo?
64. How does Romeo plan to commit suicide?
65. Who is Friar John?
66. What did Friar Lawrence ask Friar John to do?
67. Why didn't Friar John do what Friar Lawrence asked him to do?
68. Why is Paris in the church yard that night?
69. Who is Lady Montague?
70. How does Lady Montague die?
71. Why does Friar Lawrence go to the church yard that night?
72. What major character flaw does Romeo have?
73. How does Juliet die?
74. What part of Friar Lawrence's plan failed, leading to Romeo's and Juliet's deaths?