STUDY QUESTIONS FOR *Romeo and Juliet*

The following questions should be used to guide you in your reading of the play and to ensure that you recognize important parts of the play. **PLEASE USE COMPLETE SENTENCES!**

**ACT 2 SCENE 1**

1. What does the Act 2 Prologue say happened to Romeo’s love for Rosaline?

2. What does Romeo mean by “dull earth” in Scene 1, line 2?

3. Who does Mercutio think that Romeo is in love with in his speech in Scene 1, lines 6-21?

**ACT 2 SCENE 2**

1. Juliet is on the balcony outside her bedroom but cannot hear the words that Romeo says to himself as he looks at her from the hiding place below. Answer the following questions about lines 2-23:
   a. Romeo repeats the light and dark images he introduced when he saw Juliet for the first time. Why does Romeo compare Juliet to the sun?
   
   b. Why does he want the sun to kill the envious moon?
   
   c. Why is the moon envious?
   
   d. Why does he compare Juliet’s eyes to the stars?
   
   e. Why is this comparison to stars another example of foreshadowing?

2. Look at lines 33-36. Juliet is still unaware that Romeo is nearby. Paraphrase these lines.
3. Look at lines 38-49. What is Juliet’s attitude toward the feud that has separated the two families?

4. After Juliet asks some pertinent questions (lines 52-79), she realizes that Romeo has overheard her intimate thoughts about him. How does her attitude change in lines 85-105? What is she worried about?

5. Why does Juliet object to Romeo’s swearing on the moon (lines 109-111)?


7. Summarize lines 142-148.

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**ACT 2 SCENE 3**

1. Friar Laurence is introduced in a lengthy soliloquy in which he philosophies about nature and about mankind. Paraphrase his speech (pages 941-top of 943)

2. What does Romeo tell Friar Laurence, and what does he want from the Friar (lines 43-64)?
3. What is Friar Laurence’s reaction to hearing of Romeo’s new love (lines 65-80)?

4. Look at lines 89-92. What reason does Friar Laurence give for agreeing to marry Romeo and Juliet?

ACT 2 SCENE 4

1. How does Mercutio treat the Nurse? Give an example:

2. What message does Romeo urge the nurse to give to Juliet (lines 169-72)?

ACT 2 SCENE 5

1. Juliet is very impatient to hear news from Romeo (lines 1-17). What images does she use in her soliloquy to express this?

2. The nurse knows Juliet is impatient, but she keeps putting her off. Why does the nurse do this?

3. Why does the Nurse agree to help Juliet marry Romeo?
ACT 2 SCENE 6

1. What is the Friar’s warning in the lines:
   “These violent delights have violent ends
   And in their triumph die like fire and powder,
   Which, as they kiss, consume.”

2. What is the Friar’s advice to Romeo in the following lines?
   “Therefore love moderately: long love doth so:
   Too swift arrives as tardy as too slow.”

3. What happens at the very end of Scene 6?