Study Guide: Romeo and Juliet, Kiana Spencer

# Literary Terms

* Tragedy: A work of literature, especially a play, resulting in a catastrophe, a great disaster or misfortune mainly for the main character
* Tragic Hero: A hero/character that has flaws
* Tragic Flaw: A flaw that a character has.
* Flat Characters: A character that shows only one trait. What you see is what you get.
* Round Characters: A character that shows many traits, values, flaws and virtues.
* Aside: A short speech delivered by a character in a play in order to express his or her true thoughts and feelings. Traditionally directed to the audience. Inaudible to other characters
* Soliloquy: A long speech expressing the thoughts of a character alone on stage
* Monologue: A speech by one character addressed to other characters
* Oxymoron: A combination involving a word with two or more different meanings or two words that sound alike but have different meanings.
* Pun: A play on words involving a word with two or more different meanings or two words that sound alike but have different meanings.
* Dramatic Irony: A contradiction between what a character thinks and what the reader and audience knows to be true
* Situational Irony: An event that occurs that directly contradicts the expectations of the character, reader or audience.
* Dramatic foil: characters who are exact opposites of each other
* Comic Relief: A technique that is used to interrupt a serious part of literary work introducing a humorous character or situation
* Static Character: Does not develop the story
* Dynamic Character: Changes and develops the story
* Blank Verse: Poetry written in unrhymed iambic pentameter lines
* Couplet: a pair of rhyming lines, usually of the same length and meter

# Questions

## Prologue

1. Where does the tragedy take place?
2. What does the prologue mean by, “star-crossed lovers”?

## Act 1, Scene 1

1. Who are Sampson and Gregory? Why do they fight Abram in the beginning of Act 1? Who breaks up their fighting?
2. How does the Prince respond to the Montague’s and Capulet’s feuding?
3. Why is Romeo so upset and dramatic? What does Benvolio say to Romeo?

## Act 1, Scene 2

1. What does Paris ask Lord Capulet?
2. What does Lord Capulet answer? He soon then changes his mind, what is his new answer?
3. What job is the servant given, and how is this comic relief?
4. Romeo loves Rosaline, a Capulet. What does Benvolio and Romeo decide to do to see Rosaline?

## Act 1, Scene 3

1. How old is Juliet? When does she become a year older?
2. How does the Nurse feel about Juliet?
3. What question does Lady Capulet ask Juliet?
4. What is Juliet’s answer to Lady Capulet’s question?
5. Finally, what does Lady Capulet tell Juliet after hearing her answer?

## Act 1, Scene 4

1. According to Mercutio, who is Queen Mab? What does she do?
2. How does Romeo feel after hearing this monologue by Mercutio? What does he tell Mercutio?
3. Where are Romeo, Benvolio and Mercutio going in this scene?

## Act 1, Scene 5

1. How does Romeo feel when he lays eyes on Juliet?
2. What does Tybalt do when he sees Romeo?
3. How does Lord Capulet respond to Tybalt’s behavior? What does he say?
4. How does Romeo find out that Juliet is a Capulet?
5. How does Juliet find out that Romeo is a Montague?

# Questions (continued

## Act 2, scene 1

1. Where is Romeo? What are Benvolio and Mercutio doing?

## Act 2, scene 2

1. What is Romeo doing now?
2. What does Juliet say at her balcony?