

Act IV, Scene I – *Friar Laurence's cell.*

Vocabulary

inundation – deluge, surge

pensive – melancholy

prorogue – postpone, suspend

arbitrating – settling, resolving

charnel-house – designated area for discarding bones of the dead

reeky – wretched, foul, vile

shanks – calves (parts of the human body)

surcease – to end, stop, halt

1. What does Juliet tell the Friar?

2. List three things Juliet is willing to do “...without fear or doubt...rather than marry Paris”?

3. What plan does the Friar set out?

Act IV, Scene II – *Hall in Capulet's house.*

Vocabulary

forsooth – in fact, correct

gadding – lazily wandering, strolling

behests – orders, rulings

prostrate – lying flat

tush – “keep quiet”

1. Why is Lord Capulet happy?

Act IV, Scene III – *Juliet's chamber.*

Vocabulary

orisons – prayers

receptacle – place for discarding the unwanted or those who have passed away

mandrake – a plant whose root was said to look like the human form; if the root was pulled from the ground it was believed to cause madness or death

1. If the potion does not work, what is Juliet's plan?
2. Juliet is a little fearful and a little suspicious. What suspicion about the Friar does she voice?
3. What worry occupies Juliet next?
4. What is the literary term for Juliet's speech in this scene?

Act IV, Scene V – *Juliet's chamber.*

Vocabulary

aqua-vitae – intense spirits (Latin: “water of life”)

lamentable – wretched, woeful

martyr'd – abused, punished

confusions – chaos

dirges – sad songs played at funerals

troth – truth

pestilent – extremely offensive, dreadful

1. How do Lord and Lady Capulet react to the news of Juliet's death?
2. As he learns of Juliet's supposed death, what does Lord Capulet compare Juliet to? What literary term is being illustrated?
3. Does the grief seem sincere?
4. How does the Friar try to comfort the grieving parents?

5. What literary term is illustrated here:

"Our instruments to melancholy bells;
Our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast;
Our solemn hymns to sullen dirges change;
Our bridal flowers serve for a buried corse,..."

6. The next section between Peter and the musicians, seems to be for comic relief. How do you suppose the comic relief scene is supposed to function in the play?

Act V, Scene III – *A churchyard; in it a monument belonging to the Capulets.*

Vocabulary

obsequies – devotion; mourning

mattock – axe

maw – mouth (like a grave)

ensign – sign, pennant

crimson – red

sunder – sever, disconnect (the soul from the body)

paramour – concubine, mistress

inauspicious – unimportant

sepulchre – vault, grave

contagion – disease

restorative – successful, competent medication

descry – find, uncover

ambiguities – mysteries, uncertainties

direful – horrible, awful

1. What is Paris doing at the crypt?
2. What does Romeo give to Balthasar? What does Romeo tell Balthasar to do? Why does Balthasar choose not to do it?
3. What metaphor does Romeo create regarding the crypt, and what is his meaning?
4. Why do Paris and Romeo fight, since Romeo really has no wish to fight anyone?
5. Although he has just fatally wounded Paris, what act of compassion does Romeo perform for Paris?

6. Who or what does the Friar say has thwarted all their plans?

7. With Romeo and Paris dead, Juliet wakes. How does the Friar hope to resolve this mess?

8. When Juliet refuses to leave the monument, what does the Friar do?

9. What does Juliet do?

10. What has happened to Romeo's mother?

11. The concluding lines of the play state a major theme in this play. Identify these lines, state what they mean and how they reflect the theme.

12. Identify the play's exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution

