

Romeo & Juliet by Shakespeare (1564-1616) Questions Act III /90 name:

Act III. Scene I

1. What 3 reasons does Benvolio give for retiring?
2. What does Mercutio say about Benvolio's character ? From what you have observed, is this true? Explain.
3. What do Mercutio's answer to Tybalt show about Mercutio's character?
4. Why doesn't Romeo rise to Tybalt's bait?
5. What reason does Mercutio give for interfering in Romeo and Tybalt's quarrel?
6. How does Romeo try to stop the fight?
7. What is the result of Romeo's interference?
8. Why does Romeo rebuke himself in "Thy beauty hath made me effeminate
And in my temper softened valour's steel (lines 118-120)
9. What does Romeo predict for the future after learning of Mercutio's death?
10. How does this prophecy immediately come true?
11. What reasons does Benvolio give to convince Romeo to run away?
12. Is Benvolio's account of the fighting entirely accurate? Explain your answer.
13. How do you know that it's true that Romeo 'but newly entertained revenge'?
14. What is Lady Capulet's immediate reaction to Benvolio's testimony? According to Lady Capulet what really happened? What can you conclude about Lady Capulet from her statements?
15. Explain the meaning of Lord Montague's line: "Not Romeo, prince. He was

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Mercutio's friend./ His [Romeo's] fault concludes but what the law should end,/The life of Tybalt" (lines 190-191)

16. a. How does the Prince's punishment differ from the punishment he threatened in Act I. 1.?

b. What does the Prince mean by "I have an interest in your hate's proceeding,
My blood for your rude brawls doth lie a-bleeding" (196)?

c. The Prince states the principle behind his action in his last line "Mercy but murders, pardoning those that kill" (202). What does it mean?

d. Do you think the Prince believed Benvolio ? Why?

17. The **turning point** or **crisis** of a play determines how the complication will turn out. Act III scene 1 is the turning point of **Romeo & Juliet**.

a. Where in the scene do you think this specifically occurs?

b. What change does the scene bring about in Romeo & Juliet's situation?

c. What do you think will happen as a result of the fight?

18. Taking all factors into account from Act I when the Prince warned the families about the consequences of fighting in the town, explain whether you think the Prince's decision not to sentence Romeo to death was a just one.

Act III. Scene 2

1. What is Juliet impatient for?

2. In Act II, Romeo compared Juliet to sun and stars. How does Juliet now use this comparison?

3. What misunderstanding occurs between Juliet and the Nurse?

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4. How does the Nurse express her reaction to Tybalt's death? What do you think of her statements?

5. What does Juliet conclude about Romeo when she first learns that he killed Tybalt?

6. What words of Friar Laurence does her speech recall?

7. What information about the incident does Juliet **not** know?

8. What broad conclusion does the Nurse draw from the incident?

9. What wish does the Nurse utter?

10. In your own words, tell how Juliet reacts to the Nurse's words.

11. How long have Romeo & Juliet been married?

12. What sudden realization does Juliet have about how the situation could have been far worse?

13. What event does Juliet say would be preferable to Romeo's exile?

14. Where are Juliet's parents?

15. What does Juliet plan to do for her wedding night?

16. What does the Nurse promise to do?

17. Juliet is using a metaphor when she says the word **tributary**—what does she mean?

18. What synonym can be used in place of **banishment**?

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19. Given how little Juliet knows about the incidents that occurred do you think she is right to side with Romeo? Why or why not?

Act III. Scene 3

1. Romeo and Friar Laurence feel differently about the Prince's punishment of Romeo. How does each feel?

2. Why according to Romeo, is every cat, dog, mouse, and fly luckier than he is?

3. Romeo gives several reasons why he won't listen to Friar Laurence. List 3 of them.

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4. Among the many said, for what 4 things does Friar Laurence scold Romeo?

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5. What 3 gifts does Friar Laurence accuse Romeo of misusing? Explain how he misuses each.

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6. What earlier speech of Friar Laurence does this recall?

7. For what 3 reasons does Friar Laurence say Romeo should be happy?

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8. What is Friar Laurence's plan for Romeo?

9. How does Friar Laurence plan to get messages to Romeo?

Act III. Scene 4

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10. What plans do Juliet's parents make for her? Why?

11. What does Capulet do concerning arranging a marriage for Juliet that is contrary to what he said in Act I?

12. What contrast does this scene contain in the themes presented?

Act III. Scene 5

1. How are the lark and the nightingale used in this scene?

2. What four names/terms does Juliet call Romeo as he leaves?

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3. What foreboding does Juliet have?

4. How does Lady Capulet interpret Juliet's statements about Romeo?

5. What do readers realize that the statements really are? This is called **dramatic irony**.

6. Why, according to Lady Capulet, has Capulet arranged the marriage so suddenly?

7. What reason does Juliet give for putting off the marriage?

8. What sentence with a double meaning does Juliet use to describe her intentions?

9. In your own words, describe how Capulet reacts to Juliet's refusal to marry Paris.

10. What choice does Capulet give Juliet?

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11. What does Juliet beg of her mother?
12. What advice does the Nurse give Juliet? What is her reasoning?
13. What sudden change does Juliet apparently undergo?
14. Why doesn't she tell the Nurse?
15. What does Juliet really intend to do?