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Romeo & Juliet Act I Study Guide**Scene i**

1. How does the fight at the beginning of the play start?
 - a. Who begins it?
 - b. What does this tell us about the feud between the Capulets and the Montagues?
2. How are Benvolio and Tybalt **characterized** in their first lines (approx. ln. 56)?

Benvolio:

Tybalt:
3. Look at the Prince's speech in lines 74-96.
 - a. How many times have the Capulets and the Montagues fought in the streets recently?
 - b. What started all of the fights?
 - c. What will the punishment be for any more fighting?
4. How does Benvolio say the fight began?
 - a. How does this summary prove a consciousness of the audience?
5. Where has Benvolio seen Romeo lately?
6. According to both Lord Montague and Benvolio, describe Romeo's most recent behavior.
7. What is Benvolio going to try to do for Lord Montague?
8. What is Romeo's problem?
9. In his extended metaphor in lines 178- 87, list the things that Romeo compares love to:
 - a.
 - b. "being purged":
 - c. "being vexed":
 - d.
 - e. "a choking gall"
 - f. "a preserving sweet"
10. Why does Rosaline not love Romeo back?
11. What advice does Benvolio give to Romeo about how he should deal with his problem?
12. How does Romeo respond to Benvolio's advice?

Scene ii

1. The scene begins with a conversation between Paris and Capulet already in progress. What are they talking about?
2. What is Paris' "suit" to Lord Capulet?
3. How old is Juliet currently?
 - a. At what age does Lord Capulet think Juliet will be old enough?
4. On what conditions will Lord Capulet agree to Paris' suit?
5. To what does Lord Capulet invite Paris?
 - a. Why?
6. Why can't the servant deliver the invitations?
7. Benvolio and Romeo enter into the scene with a conversation already in progress. What are they talking about?
8. How do Romeo and Benvolio find out about the Capulet party?
 - a. Why does Benvolio say they should go?
 - b. Which family does Rosaline belong to?
 - c. Why does Romeo agree to go?

Scene iii

1. Wait! How old is Juliet according to her mother and the Nurse?
2. Who is Susan?
3. How long has the Nurse known Juliet?
 - a. What did she do for her as a baby?
4. How does the story that the Nurse relates in lines 25- 59 characterize her as a **bawdy character**?
5. How does Juliet feel about marriage currently?
6. What are the two meanings of “Why, he’s a man of wax”?
 - a. Whom are they talking about?
 - b. What is the positive meaning?
 - c. What is the more negative meaning?
7. What does Lady Capulet ask Juliet to do at the party that evening?
8. What does Juliet mean by the following lines:
“I’ll look to like, if looking liking move
But no more deep will I endart mine eye
Than your consent gives strength to make it fly.”

Scene iv

1. Why is the word **measure** in lines 9-10 a **double entendre**? What two meanings does it have?
2. Why does Romeo not plan on dancing?
3. What is Mercutio’s advice about love to Romeo in lines 27- 30?
4. Who is Queen Mab?
5. What literary term are lines 106-113 an example of? Why?
 - a. Summarize the previous lines.

Scene v

1. Describe Capulet’s mood at the beginning of the party.
 - a. How is his mood shown?
2. What are some of the things Romeo compares Juliet to in lines 41-50?
3. Why is Tybalt angry?
4. Why does Capulet warn Tybalt against fighting?
5. What metaphor might Romeo be making when he compares himself and Juliet to “pilgrims” and “saints”?
6. What are the two possible meanings of, “You kiss by th’ book”?
 - a. a compliment:
 - b. an insult:
7. How does Romeo find out who Juliet is?
8. How does Juliet find out who Romeo is?
9. What is significant about the line, “My grave is like to be my wedding bed”?