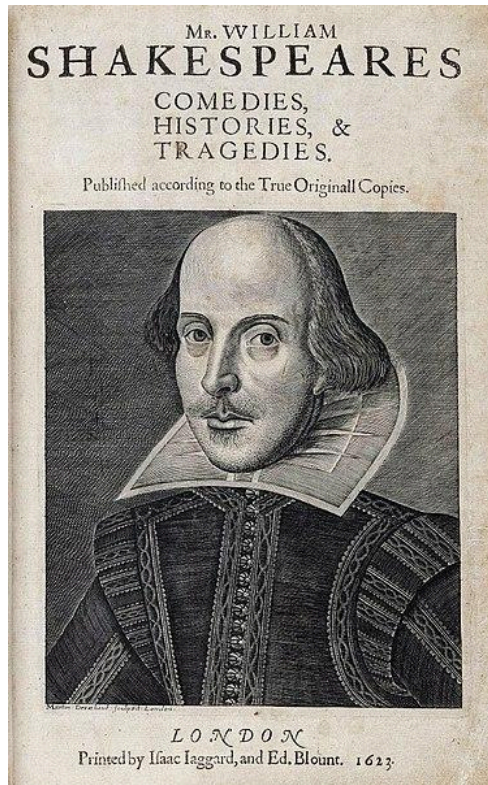


Name: _____

Date: _____ Period: ____

Freshman English: Easton

Romeo and Juliet Actor's Notebook



In Shakespeare's time, acting companies or troupes like The Chamberlain's Men and The King's Men were popular. So, what about your acting company? Next week, you and your troupe will have created a **company name** for your acting troupe. Next, your troupe will create a fabulous poster complete with the creative (but grandma appropriate) name of your acting company, **the names of your company mates**, your **designated scene**, and the performance date (March 19th) prominently stated. Be thoughtful in your choice of type fonts and images you use. The more creative the poster, the better! Use images. Include pics of yourselves. Maybe a quotation from your scene! Make up reviews! We'll be hanging these up in our room to build excitement.

Contents:

Page 1 (see layout) will be your TITLE PAGE. The Title Page will include your specific act & scene, company name, cast mates, date of production, Shakespeare's name, and a hand-drawn key symbol or image that best reflects the essence of your scene. Don't do this page until you have a clear vision for your scene: location, time period, costumes, tone, and so on.

Page 2 will explain your troupe's interpretation of your scene. You will begin by describing the setting of this scene using full sentences. Setting should be determined by the troupe. State your reasons for why this setting makes sense. You should list:

- Sets – What specific sets or scenery would be used?
- Props – What specific props would ALL the characters use?
- Costumes – Describe what the characters will be wearing, and draw a picture, or cut out and paste in an image of what YOUR CHARACTER will be dressed as.
- Lighting–What lighting will you attempt to create for this scene, and why?
- Music– What music will you have and at what times will it be played/incorporated into your scene? Be sure also to explain why you have made your selection.

Page 3 will be a STORYBOARD summary of your scene. After you make the storyboard, simply glue it onto this page. What key events occur? Who are the key characters? Draw in backgrounds to indicate “where” the scene is located. You’ve been making storyboards for all the acts, and the same requirements apply to this one. Divide your scene up into 6 panels, regardless of scene length.

Pages 4, 6 and 8 will include the text of your scene. I’ve printed out your scene for you. Cut up your scene into 3 equal chunks and glue each chunk on the LEFT hand pages of the two page layout. Since the top of each left side page will be Shakespeare’s words, on the bottom will be your translation or paraphrase. This “translation” entails putting the words into deliberate slang so that an actor understands the intent of the language. Like any good paraphrasing, it should be as long (if not longer) than the original material. Be sure to insert the proper punctuation!

Pages 5, 7 and 9

On the right side pages you will include all of the important notes that you, as an actor, would need to convey the true essence of your scene. Look at it from this angle: what if someone needed to replace you, how would they need to know? What gestures would they use? What would their movements be? What words would they emphasize and how? The notes on the right side of the play will allow you to detail HOW you AND YOUR GROUP will perform the scene. This will include but not be limited to descriptions and explanations of the following:

- Movements/Blocking – Is there any particular movement or action that you would add/include? – Show us where you are on the stage!
- Emotions/Tone – What will your characters be feeling? What mood will they be trying to create and convey? How will emotions affect how you deliver certain words/ phrases?

Pages 10 and 11. On these pages, you keep a daily journal of the work you’ve done. I’ll be giving you class time to work on this project every day, so just make a note (bullet point lists are OK) of what you accomplished. You only have two pages, so make sure you can fit it all– you may have up to 8 entries to make on these two pages.

Page 12 and back blue page. On this final page, write a short essay that explains your scene’s importance in the context of the entire play. You’ll need to make references to specific events before and after your scene. Reflect on what your scene reveals about the characters in (and not in) the scene, and Shakespeare’s thematic comment about life and our human experience.

Layout:

Here's a chart of your Actor's Notebook (a blue exam bluebook):

	Cover: Your name, period, Act/Scene
[This page left purposefully blank]	Title Page
P2. Group interpretation of scene	P3. Storyboard Summary (6 panels)
P4. Text chunk	P5. Acting notes
P6. Text chunk	P7. Acting notes
P8. Text chunk	P9. Acting notes
P10. Daily Journal	P11. Daily Journal
P12. Short essay on importance of scene	P13. ...essay continued.

We will work on the following pages, IN THIS ORDER. Note that the layout IS sequentially different from above:

Step

Completed on:

1. Page 4,6,8 (cut and literally paste your script into your bluebook)

2. Company Poster (group project, worked on together)

3. Page 2 (individual work, written interpretation of scene)

4. Pages 5,7,9 (YOUR acting notes for YOUR role, in script (and even if you don't have lines for each page, you should have notes on how your character will/would respond to content)

5. Page 3 (individual storyboards of your scene)

6. Page 1 (Title page)

7. Page 12 (Your short essay on how your scene relates to the rest of the play.

8. Pages 10 and 11 (Journal entries that you will complete throughout the entire process—I will assign, and you will do these, in class.)

Final Note: DON'T LOSE YOUR NOTEBOOK. If you lose your Actor's Notebook, you'll have to remake the whole thing from scratch– even if I've seen it along the way as you've been working on it. Even if you lose it the day before it's due 😞. Stay organized. Don't lose it!

QUESTIONS: