

ROMEO & JULIET

ANSWER KEY FOR SCENES 3-5

ACT THREE - SCENE ONE

1. Tybalt, still enraged at Romeo's intrusion at the Capulet's ball, is determined to fight, but Romeo refuses. Why?

Romeo is now married to Juliet and is therefore Tybalt's cousin. He doesn't want to jeopardise his new marriage by killing his cousin-in-law.

2. How does Mercutio get involved, and what happens to him?

Mercutio believes that Romeo's refusal to fight is an act of cowardice. Mercutio loses his temper and fights with Tybalt. In the midst of the struggle, Romeo intervenes to stop Mercutio, inadvertently exposing Mercutio's side to Tybalt's blade. Mercutio suffers a mortal wound and dies after a short speech.

3. How does Romeo react to this?

Ever impulsive and ruled by his emotions, Romeo flies into a rage and kills Tybalt.

4. What decree does the Prince make?

By law, Romeo should be executed. However, as Tybalt started the fight and first killed Mercutio, the Prince reduces the punishment to banishment from Verona on pain of death.

5. Explain how this scene serves as a *turning point* in the drama. (how does it complicate and accelerate the conflict?)

Romeo and Juliet are newly married, and cannot be together. Moreover, they were married in secret, and no one understands their predicament, except Friar Lawrence and the Nurse.

ACT THREE - SCENE TWO

1. Summarize Juliet's soliloquy (lines 1-31)

I can't wait for night time. I wish I could see my secret lover and husband. Even though it is night, we can create our own light! I can't wait until we can be together, and I will no longer be a virgin, but can know true love! Romeo, you are my day! When Romeo dies, he will become like the stars that shine in the night sky, so that all can see him. I am like a house that is bought but no one has moved in yet, or like new birthday clothes that are not yet worn.

2. Explain the dramatic irony in the beginning of this scene.

Juliet is waiting for her Romeo and has no knowledge of the duel with Tybalt. She does not yet know that her cousin is dead and Romeo banished. However, the audience knows this.

3. How does Juliet react to the nurse's news?

At first, Juliet believes Romeo dead, and contemplates joining him in death. However, when she finds out from the nurse that Tybalt is dead and Romeo alive, she is relieved but conflicted. She is angry at Romeo and still in love with him. That is why she refers to him as "Beautiful Monster", a "devil-angel," a "saint from Hell", and a "vile book with a beautiful cover." However, she defends his reputation from the nurse's criticisms.

1. What does Juliet plan to do with the cords? (See lines 132-137)

She plans to leave them by the balcony so Romeo can climb up in secret.

2. How does the nurse console her?

She arranges to have Romeo meet Juliet in secret before he leaves Verona.

ACT THREE - SCENE THREE

1. How does Romeo react to the news of his banishment?

In self-pity and horror. He claims that it is a fate worse than death, because he now has to live without Juliet by his side.

2. Summarize Friar Laurence's speech (lines 108-154).

Get a hold of yourself! This is not the end! Banishment is better than death! You are lucky! Perhaps one day the sentence will be forgiven and you and Juliet can be together! Dry your eyes and stop feeling sorry for yourself. I have a plan that may yet allow you to be with your wife.

ACT THREE - SCENE FOUR

1. What happens in this scene?

Lord Capulet agrees to marry Juliet to Paris and is so enthusiastic that he moves the wedding to Thursday. He doesn't realize that Juliet is already married to Romeo. When Lady Capulet brings the news to Juliet, she refuses, and Lord Capulet flies into a rage, disowning his daughter unless she gives in to his will. The nurse tries to convince Juliet to agree to this second marriage and abandon Romeo. Juliet asks to go to confession in order to discuss her options with Friar Lawrence, but pretends to be feeling guilty for disobeying her father.

2. How does the action in this scene complicate matters even further?

While Romeo's banishment made it difficult for Romeo and Juliet to be together, the impending marriage to Paris would make it impossible. Friar Lawrence, Juliet, and Romeo have only a few days now to resolve their problems.

3. How does Capulet's attitude now differ from his attitude when Paris first came to ask for Juliet's hand in marriage?

Capulet was non-committal before, but now appears to be overly enthusiastic.

ACT THREE - SCENE FIVE

Day breaks, and the two lovers must part after consummating their wedding vows. Juliet is very reluctant to have Romeo leave her and does not want to admit that it is morning. Finally Romeo leaves and Juliet's mother comes to her chamber. Their conversation about Tybalt's death has Juliet speaking in ambiguous terms.

1. Paraphrase the paradoxical phrases in lines 94-103.

<p><i>JULIET</i></p> <p><i>Indeed, I never shall be satisfied With Romeo, till I behold him – dead – Is my poor heart for a kinsman vexed. Madam, if you could find out but a man To bear a poison, I would temper it, That Romeo should, upon receipt thereof, Soon sleep in quiet. Oh, how my heart abhors To hear him named, and cannot come to him. To wreak the love I bore my cousin Upon his body that slaughtered him!</i></p>	<p><i>I will never be happy until I see Romeo... er, dead, I mean...Nurse, can you find a way to get some poison for me?</i></p> <p><i>Oh I hate to hear his name, but I can't see him! I want to express the love I bore my cousin... and show Romeo.</i></p>
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1. Does Juliet really want Romeo dead? Is she simply pretending to be vengeful? Explain.

No. She is pretending, because that is the socially acceptable thing to do. She is also trying to hide her love for Romeo.

2. Paraphrase Capulet's reaction to Juliet's refusal to marry Paris.

<p><i>CAPULET</i></p> <p><i>How, how, how, how? Chopped logic! What is this? "Proud," and "I thank you," and "I thank you not," And yet "not proud"? Mistress minion you, Thank me no thankings, nor proud me no prouds, But fettle your fine joints 'gainst Thursday next To go with Paris to Saint Peter's Church, Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither. Out, you green sickness, carrion! Out, you baggage! You tallow face!</i></p>	<p>Ungrateful daughter! What ridiculous logic! How can you be so polite and yet defy me!</p> <p>It doesn't matter what you want, you ARE GOING TO MARRY PARIS ANYWAY! Get to St. Peter's Church on Thursday, or I'll drag you there! Get out of here you scum!</p>
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3. Do you think Capulet is being fair or reasonable? Should Juliet marry the man her father chooses for her? Why or why not?

Yes, I think that daughters should obey their parents no matter what!

No! I believe that everyone has the right to choose who they will marry!

4. Paraphrase the advice that the nurse gives Juliet?

<p>NURSE</p> <p><i>Faith, here it is.</i></p> <p><i>Romeo is banishèd, and all the world to nothing</i></p> <p><i>That he dares ne'er come back to challenge you.</i></p> <p><i>Or, if he do, it needs must be by stealth.</i></p> <p><i>Then, since the case so stands as now it doth,</i></p> <p><i>I think it best you married with the county.</i></p> <p><i>Oh, he's a lovely gentleman.</i></p> <p><i>Romeo's a dishclout to him. An eagle, madam,</i></p> <p><i>Hath not so green, so quick, so fair an eye</i></p> <p><i>As Paris hath. Beshrew my very heart,</i></p> <p><i>I think you are happy in this second match,</i></p> <p><i>For it excels your first. Or if it did not,</i></p> <p><i>Your first is dead, or 'twere as good he were,</i></p> <p><i>As living here and you no use of him.</i></p>	<p>You better marry Paris! Romeo is banished and is no good for you anymore! Paris is a good match for you. Forget Romeo.</p>
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5. What does Juliet decide to do?

To go to confession to speak with Friar Lawrence. She wants to figure out what to do next.

ACT FOUR - SCENE ONE

Juliet is no longer the obedient child. The events of the past few days have caused her to mature. With no hope of help from her mother or the nurse she is now taking matters into her own hands. She gives the excuse that since she has displeased her father, she is going to Friar Laurence to confess her sin and be absolved. (*Notice how she deals with Paris at the opening of this scene.*) Once Paris is gone, Juliet pleads with Friar Laurence to help her out of her predicament.

1. Explain in detail the plan that Juliet and Friar Lawrence arrange.
 - a) Juliet agrees to marry Paris.
 - b) Drinks a poison that puts her into a death-like state (coma). Everyone believes her dead.
 - c) F. Lawrence sends a letter to Romeo (in Mantua).
 - d) Romeo returns in secret and meets Juliet in the Crypt when she awakens (42 hours later)
 - e) They ride off into the sunset to begin their new lives together.

ACT FOUR - SCENE TWO

1. What day is it now?

TUESDAY

2. Juliet is so convincing in her deception that her father decides to move the wedding day up from Thursday to Wednesday. What complication does this change foreshadow?
SHE NEEDS TO RUSH THE PLAN...this intensifies the conflict. The "Romeo" part of the plan is now messed up.

ACT FOUR - SCENE THREE

1. What happens in this scene?

Juliet goes to bed and then drinks the "sleeping" potion.

2. Summarize Juliet's soliloquy (lines 14-58)

I am really scared and worried. What if something goes wrong? NO! I can't back out! I have to do this alone! If the potion doesn't work, this dagger will! What if I wake up too soon, before Romeo comes? That is a scary thought! I might suffocate without fresh air. OH NO! Tybalt's ghost might be there! I might go mad! Oh well. Romeo, I drink this for you! Gulp, Gulp!

3. List Juliet's fears as she is about to drink the potion.

See above (#2)

ACT FOUR - SCENE FOUR

1. Describe what happens in this scene.

They are preparing for the wedding feast in the Capulet House. Lord Capulet sends for Juliet.

ACT FOUR - SCENE FIVE

1. Explain how the Capulet wedding day becomes a day of sorrow.
They find Juliet lying in her bed and believe her to be dead. Instead of marrying her to Paris, they bury her in the family crypt.

2. How do Capulet's words make use of both an extended metaphor and personification?

<p>CAPULET Ready to go, but never to return. O son! The night before thy wedding day Hath death lain with thy wife. There she lies, Flower as she was, deflowered by him. Death is my son-in-law. Death is my heir. My daughter he hath wedded. I will die, And leave him all. Life, living, all is Death's.</p>	<p>Contrast and Paradox</p> <p>Juliet is now married to Death. (Personification)</p> <p>Compares Juliet to a "flower", but also says she was "deflowered" (she lost her virginity to Death). Extended Metaphor.</p> <p>Death has taken my daughter and he has taken everything. (Personification)</p>
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3. Explain Friar Laurence's speech (lines 65-83)

<p>FRIAR LAWRENCE Peace, ho, for shame! Confusion's cure lives not In these confusions. Heaven and yourself Had part in this fair maid. Now heaven hath all. And all the better is it for the maid. Your part in her you could not keep from death, But heaven keeps his part in eternal life. The most you sought was her promotion, For 'twas your heaven she should be advanced. And weep ye now, seeing she is advanced Above the clouds, as high as heaven itself? Oh, in this love, you love your child so ill That you run mad, seeing that she is well. She's not well married that lives married long, But she's best married that dies married young.</p>	<p>Don't make matters worse! You had your daughter for a short time, now she belongs to God ("Heaven" is a Euphemism for "God")</p> <p>You could never keep her from dying, but now she has eternal life.</p> <p>Why weep for her, when she is happy and in a better place?</p> <p>Be happy for her!</p> <p>One is better of happily married and dying young than unhappily married and living to long.</p>
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ACT FIVE - SCENE ONE

1. How does Romeo's dream, which he describes in his opening speech, compare with the news brought to him by Balthasar?

<p>ROMEO</p> <p><i>If I may trust the flattering truth of sleep, My dreams presage some joyful news at hand. My bosom's lord sits lightly in his throne, And all this day an unaccustomed spirit Lifts me above the ground with cheerful thoughts. I dreamt my lady came and found me dead – Strange dream, that gives a dead man leave to think – And breathed such life with kisses in my lips That I revived and was an emperor. Ah me! How sweet is love itself possessed When but love's shadows are so rich in joy!</i></p>	<p>I had a great dream! I was happy, but I dreamt Juliet arrived to find me dead!</p> <p>But she kissed me and I came back to life and became an emperor!</p> <p>(this foreshadows the climax of the play)</p> <p>How sweet love is!</p>
<p>BALTHASAR</p> <p><i>Then she is well, and nothing can be ill. Her body sleeps in Capels' monument, And her immortal part with angels lives. I saw her laid low in her kindred's vault And presently took post to tell it you. O, pardon me for bringing these ill news, Since you did leave it for my office, sir.</i></p>	<p>If there were nothing wrong with the world, then she is fine. However, her body is buried in the Capulet crypt. Her spirit is with the angels. I'm sorry for bringing you this terrible news, buddy.</p>

1. How does Romeo convince the apothecary to sell him poison?

He pays him a lot of money.

2. What does he plan to do with the poison?

Kill himself, after he has seen Juliet's body one last time.

ACT FIVE - SCENE TWO

1. Explain the conversation between Friar Laurence and Friar John.

Friar John explains that he and the messenger weren't able to bring the letter to Romeo in Mantua, because he visited the house of a sick person and was kept in quarantine in another town.

2. What does Friar Laurence now plan to do?

He decides to visit the tomb to be there when Juliet wakes up. He also plans to write another letter to Romeo. Of course, he has no idea that Romeo has heard the report that Juliet is dead and has already arrived in Verona.

ACT FIVE - SCENE THREE

1. Why does Paris come to Juliet's burial place?

He visits the tomb in order to leave flowers at her grave.

2. What happens when Romeo and Paris meet?

Paris believes that Romeo is trying to desecrate the tomb and attacks. A servant boy leaves in order to call the town guards. During the duel, Romeo kills Paris. He then buries Paris in the tomb as well.

3. What happens when Romeo enters the tomb and sees Juliet?

He kisses her goodbye then drinks poison, lying down next to her body.

4. What happens when Juliet wakes up?

She sees Romeo dead beside her. Friar Lawrence arrives and tries to get her to leave because the town watch is coming. However, she refuses to leave and stabs herself.

4. Paraphrase Friar Laurence's speech. (lines 229-269)

He explains everything to the Prince, that he married Romeo and Juliet in secret, and that he had tried to arrange for a way for them to be together. However, the plan went wrong when his letter to Romeo was delayed. When the watch arrived, Friar Lawrence fled and Juliet killed herself.

5. Describe the conclusion of the drama. Explain how *Poetic Justice* operates in the play.

The Capulets and Montagues are punished for their hatred through the loss of Romeo and Juliet, Paris and Tybalt. Their mutual hatred hurt both families. In response, Lord Capulet and Lord Montague apologize to each other and agree to end their family feud.

3. Discuss the tragic flaws in the characters of Romeo and Juliet? How do they lead to their destruction?

Romeo's Flaws	Juliet's Flaws
<p>He is impulsive: he acts before thinking carefully. He is ruled by his emotions. He ends up doing things that hurt himself and others, even though he doesn't mean to. For instance, he inadvertently leads to Mercutio's death, and kills himself when Juliet is still alive (leading to her suicide). Romeo is loyal and loving, but he is also impulsive.</p>	<p>Juliet is also young and madly in love with Romeo. Her great love leads to her suicide and undoing. However, her flaws are less clear.</p>

4. In your opinion, why has the play Romeo and Juliet remained so popular over time? What makes this story so powerful?

Answer may vary.