

Act Three

Comprehension Check

Directions: To give you a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of the play, answer the following questions using complete sentences on a separate sheet of paper. Be sure to use your Scene Guide to help you.

Scene One

1. What indication does Benvolio give that he feels trouble might be coming?
2. How does Mercutio make fun of Benvolio in Scene 1? Give at least 3 examples of what Mercutio accuses Benvolio of.
3. Who is Tybalt looking for? Why has he come?
4. Why does Benvolio try to stop the fight between Mercutio and Tybalt?
5. Why does Romeo refuse to fight Tybalt?
6. Why does Mercutio stand up to fight Tybalt when Romeo won't?
7. Explain how Mercutio is stabbed.
8. What does Mercutio mean by "a plague o' both your houses"?
9. Why does Romeo suddenly want Tybalt dead?
10. After killing Tybalt, Romeo says "O, I am fortune's fool." What does this mean? Why is this line important to the outcome of the play?
11. What does Benvolio say Romeo tried to do before Mercutio was killed?
12. Who now wants Romeo dead?
13. What is the Prince's punishment for Romeo? Why is this surprising?

Scene Two

1. What does Juliet wish for at the beginning of Scene 2?
2. What does Juliet misunderstand when the Nurse finally arrives?
3. What is Juliet's immediate reaction to this?
4. When Juliet finds out Romeo killed Tybalt, what does Juliet say about Romeo?
5. How does Juliet then change her mind?
6. What comparison does Juliet make to the idea of Romeo being banished? (In other words, how bad is it?)
7. Explain what Juliet has planned when she says, "I'll to my wedding-bed; / And death, not Romeo, take my maidenhead!"
8. What does Juliet give to the Nurse to take to Romeo?

Scene Three

1. Why is banishment worse than death according to Romeo?
2. What does Romeo say about removing his name after the Nurse arrives?
3. Friar Lawrence tries to convince Romeo to be satisfied with his sentence. Give 3 reasons Romeo should be "happy" according to Friar Lawrence.
4. Explain Friar Lawrence's plan.
5. What does the Nurse give Romeo?

Scene Four

1. At the beginning of Scene Four, what day is it?
2. What plans does Capulet make with Paris?
3. Why has Capulet suddenly changed his mind about Juliet getting married?

Scene Five

1. What is Romeo and Juliet's argument about in the beginning of Scene 5?
2. What "ill-divining" image does Juliet see?
3. Juliet says "Yet let me weep for such a feeling loss" in Scene 5, after Lady Capulet arrives. How is this line ironic?
4. What does Lady Capulet threaten to do to Romeo?
5. What is Capulet's response to Juliet's refusal of marriage?
6. What is Lady Capulet's reaction to Juliet?
7. What is the Nurse's advice to Juliet? Why is this surprising?
8. To where does Juliet say she is going at the end of Scene 5? Why does she say she is going there? Why is Juliet really going?