**Romeo & Juliet - Questions & Important Quotes**

**Act 1**

**Important Quotations**

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**Questions**

**ACT 1 SCENE 2**

1. In this scene Lord Capulet talks to Paris about marrying his daughter Juliet. What two reasons does he give for not wanting Juliet to marry at this time (lines 8-14)? She is too young, hasn’t experienced the world yet, his only daughter and it will take him away from her too soon.

2. On what condition will Lord Capulet agree to Juliet’s marriage with Paris? (lines 16-19) If he can convince Juliet to agree to marry him, he’ll give his consent.

3. What does this reveal about Lord Capulet’s love for his daughter? He is protective of her and wants the best for her.

4. From the servant who cannot read we learn that Rosaline, with whom Romeo believes he is in love, will be at the Capulet party. Why does this excite Benvolio? What is his plan (lines 84-89)? He wants Romeo to come so he will be over Rosaline. He wants Romeo to look at other women, and there will be other women there.

5. Explain Benvolio’s analogy in lines 86-89. He will show Romeo that although he thinks Rosaline is beautiful, he’ll compare her to other beautiful girls which will make his “swan” (beautiful) look like a “crow” (ugly).

6. Why does Romeo agree to go to the party (lines 102-103)? Because he wants to go, not because the others think it’s a great idea.

**ACT 1 SCENE 3**

In this scene Lady Capulet is informing Juliet and her nurse of Count Paris’ proposal of marriage.

1. What is the nurse’s relationship with Juliet? Nurse raised her, is basically her mother figure.

2. What is the nurse’s one wish for Juliet and why? (lines 62-63) To be married, because she thinks that’s what every happy woman should do.

3. When Lady Capulet asks Juliet how she feels about being married, what is Juliet’s answer (line 67), and what does it reveal about her character? It’s nothing something she’s always dreamed and hoped for. She is immature and isn’t really interested in boys yet.

4. The nurse and Lady Capulet are both excited and pleased by Paris’ proposal but for different reasons. The nurse says Paris is “a man of wax” and at the end of the scene encourages Juliet to “Go, girl, seek happy nights to happy days.” What does the nurse see in Paris, and what does it reveal about her attitude toward love and marriage? The nurse sees that Paris is a good looking, rich guy who would make beautiful babies with her. She sees marriage as a superficial thing, based mostly on looks and money.

5. What is Juliet’s attitude toward love and marriage? (lines 98-100) Isn’t interested.

**ACT 1 SCENE 4**

1. Why does Romeo feel uneasy about going to the party? What dream-like premonition has he had? (lines 106-111) He had a dream that something bad would happen.

2. What decision does Romeo make in lines 112-113? He’s going to let fate have it’s way, leaving the decisions up to the ‘Gods’ to lead his way in life.

3. How is this important to the theme of the story? People are always letting a ‘higher power’ make decisions for them, even when they have a really bad feeling about what’s going to happen.

**ACT 1 SCENE 5**

1. We learn from Romeo’s soliloquy (a speech delivered while the speaker is alone, calculated to inform the audience of what is passing in the character’s mind) that he is struck by love at first sight when he sees Juliet at the party. Paraphrase Rome’s speech (lines 43-53) in 2-3 sentences. She’s more beautiful than everything he’s ever seen, and he’s never been in real love until this moment (see ya later, Rosaline).

2. To what does he compare Juliet? Beautiful doves, precious jewels.

3. How does this speech about his love for Juliet compare to his speeches about being in love with Rosaline? Never was poetic about Rosaline, always just talked about how sad he was, this
he’s talking about how awesome Juliet is.

4. Tybalt recognizes Romeo’s voice and tries to start a fight. What two reasons does Lord Capulet give for stopping him (lines 65-69)? He’s a good kid, has a good reputation, doesn’t want to start a fight at his party.

5. What threat does Tybalt make as he agrees to withdraw? (lines 90-91) He’ll back off now, but not the next time he sees him.

7. Dramatic Irony is when the audience knows something the characters do not. What is ironic about Juliet’s line 134? Eventually death IS her wedding bed.

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**Act 2**

**Important Quotations**

**Act 2 Scene 1**
- line 33  Mercutio

**Act 2 Scene 2**
- lines 2-3  Romeo
- lines 58-59 Juliet
- lines 109-111 Juliet
- line 125  Romeo
- lines 155-157 Romeo
- lines 158-163 Juliet

**Act 2 Scene 3**
- lines 61-64 & 75-77 & 87-88 Friar Lawrence

**Act 2 Scene 4**
- lines 19-27 Mercutio
- line 77  Mercutio

**Act 2 Scene 5**
- lines 60-61 Juliet

**Act 2 Scene 6**
- lines 14-15 Friar Lawrence

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**Questions**

**ACT 2 SCENE 2**

1. Juliet is on the balcony outside her bedroom but cannot hear the words that Romeo says to himself as he looks at her from the hiding place below. Answer the following questions about lines 2-25:
   a. Romeo repeats the light and dark images he introduced when he saw Juliet for the first time. Why does Romeo compare Juliet to the sun? Bright, beautiful.
   b. Why is the moon envious? Moon is pale, wishes it were beautiful like the sun.
   c. Why does he compare Juliet’s eyes to the stars? He’s looking up, they are bright and sparkly.
   d. Why is this comparison to stars another example of foreshadowing? Stars are always brightest before they die (like Juliet is going to).

2. Juliet is still unaware that Romeo is nearby. Paraphrase these lines. (lines 33-36) Why are you a Montague? Change your name so that you won’t be a Montague, or I will change mine so I’m not a Capulet.

3. What is Juliet’s attitude toward the feud that has separated the two families? (lines 43-55) She thinks it’s stupid because it’s only because of a name.

4. After Juliet asks some important questions (lines 58-84), she realizes that Romeo has overheard her intimate thoughts about him. How does her attitude change in lines 85-105? What is she worried about? She is worried he’ll think she’s crazy so she says maybe she doesn’t really love him, she’ll pretend not to if he will still try to win her heart (play hard to get).

5. Juliet speaks of her fears in lines 116-119. What are her fears? She’s worried they are rushing things, moving too quick, and that he’ll change his mind tomorrow.


**ACT 2 SCENE 3**

1. What does Romeo tell Friar Laurence, and what does he want from the Friar (lines 43-64)? He is in love with Juliet (not Rosaline anymore) and he wants him to marry them.

2. What is Friar Laurence’s reaction to hearing of Romeo’s new love (lines 65-80)? Thinks he’s moving way too fast, because just yesterday he was crying over Rosaline and now he wants to marry someone else.

3. Reread lines 89-92. What reason does Friar Laurence give for agreeing to marry Romeo and Juliet? He thinks it will end the feud between the two families.

**ACT 2 SCENE 4**

1. What message does Romeo urge the nurse to give to Juliet (lines 163-166)? Get Juliet to make a reason up to go to confession at Friar Laurence’s cell and there we’ll get married.

**ACT 2 SCENE 5**

2. Why does the Nurse agree to help Juliet marry Romeo? Because she thinks he’s a good looking guy and it makes Juliet happy.
### Important Quotations

#### Act 3 Scene 1
- Mercutio lines 106-108
- Romeo lines 136

#### Scene 2
- Juliet lines 73-74
- Juliet lines 136-137

#### Scene 3
- Romeo lines 21-23
- Romeo lines 29-33
- Friar Laurence line 61
- Friar Laurence line 83

#### Scene 4
- Capulet sets the date for Juliet and Paris to be wed.

#### Scene 5
- Romeo line 36 (ex. of ‘light vs. dark’ theme)
- Juliet lines 54-57
- Lady Capulet lines 139-140
- Capulet lines 156-157
- Lady Capulet lines 203-204

### Questions

#### ACT 3 SCENE 1
1. Mercutio tries to provoke Tybalt to fight (lines 37-38). Why doesn’t Tybalt want to fight him (line 53)? **Because he’s waiting for Romeo**
2. After Tybalt insults Romeo, Romeo responds with lines 59-62. What is the “reason” Romeo has for ignoring the insult? **Because they are now family, even though he can’t tell him why**
3. Why does Romeo’s answer to Tybalt’s insults upset Mercutio? What does he think Romeo is doing (line 70)? **He thinks Romeo is just backing down and backing out, and giving up. Being a wimp?**
4. Romeo tries to stop Mercutio and Tybalt from fighting by reasoning with them (lines 82-85). Summarize what he says. He’s saying they shouldn’t fight, put down their weapons and basically let’s be friends
5. Even when he is dying, Mercutio continues to joke and to make puns. Explain the pun he makes in lines 92-99. **Grave man – normally a very sick person, but he means a man in a grave**
6. Mercutio repeats the following line (106) three times and then adds the next line. Explain what he means: “A plague O’ both your houses! / They have made worm’s meat of me.” **He is putting a curse on the houses, it’s their fault, and their fighting, that has resulted in his death**
7. After Mercutio dies, why does Romeo decide to kill Tybalt instead of accepting Mercutio’s death as an unfortunate accident? **He’s angry and wants to have revenge**
8. Romeo’s answer to Tybalt’s killing of Mercutio. **He is fortune’s play thing – the gods are using him to have fun**
9. What is Lord Montague’s reasoning in his attempt to persuade the Prince not to kill Romeo for killing Tybalt? (lines 180-183) **He was simply doing what the law would have done anyway, kill Tybalt**
10. What is the Prince’s ruling, and what are the reasons he gives for making it (lines 182-185)? **Romeo is exiled to Mantua because though he did what the law did, he still needs to be punished and people need to know that revenge murder is not acceptable.**

#### ACT 3 SCENE 2
1. In lines 37-68 the nurse confuses Juliet as she tells Juliet of the fight. What misconception does Juliet make? **She thinks Romeo is dead**
2. When Juliet receives news of Tybalt’s death, what is her first reaction? (lines 73) **She is upset**
3. Reread Juliet’s lines 90-92. When the nurse agrees with Juliet, Juliet has a different reaction to Romeo’s killing of Tybalt. Explain. (lines 90-92) **She is now happy Tybalt is dead because it means that Romeo is alive**
4. What happens at the end of the scene? **Nurse goes to find Romeo to tell him to come see Juliet**

#### ACT 3 SCENE 3
1. What is Romeo’s reaction when he learns that he has been banished? **He’d rather be dead**
2. From the beginning of the play, Romeo acts impulsively. In what way is he still impulsive in this scene (lines 102-108)? **Says he wants to kill himself instead of being banished**
3. Explain Friar Laurence’s plan (lines 146-154). He’ll go to Juliet to “seal the deal”, then head to Mantua before the sun comes up and the guards are out. Then he’ll stay there till the Friar can come up with a way to fix everything, then he can come back.

#### ACT 3 SCENE 5
Questions begin with Lady Capulet’s entrance, line 68.
1. Lady Capulet misunderstands Juliet’s sadness, and Juliet does not want her to know what has happened between Romeo and Juliet. What does Juliet say about Tybalt and Romeo to keep the truth from her mother (lines 67-102)? **That she’d like to be the one to make the poison that kills Romeo, and that she’d like to behold him – dead**
2. What is Juliet’s response when she is told the news that she is to marry Paris (lines 116-123)? **How has she changed since Act 1? She doesn’t want to marry him, she hates him**
3. What is her mother’s reaction to Juliet’s response (line 124 and lines 139-140)? **She better do**
what her father is told
4. What is Lord Capulet’s response to Juliet’s refusal to marry Paris? (lines 190-194) If she
doesn’t, she’ll be out on the streets and will die a beggar
5. What does the Nurse advise Juliet to do (lines 212-225)? What is her reasoning? Marry Paris
because he’s a better match and Romeo is as good as dead
6. After the Nurse leaves and Juliet is alone, what does Juliet decide to do (lines 240-243)? Shes’
going to go to Friar Lawrence and find a way to figure out how to be with Romeo

Act 4

Important Quotations

Scene 1
line 21 Juliet
lines 81-86 Juliet

Scene 2
line 17-18 Juliet

Scene 3
lines 15-16
lines 55-59

Scene 4
lines 7-12
lines 28-29
line 37
lines 100-101

Questions

ACT 4 SCENE 1
1. Why is Paris visiting Friar Laurence? To set up the wedding
2. Juliet tells Friar Laurence what she will do if the wedding to Paris cannot be avoided.
   Summarize lines 50-67. Kill herself
3. Summarize lines 68-76. The Friar says he has thought of a way out, but what would it require?
   She would have to be willing to be dead to all of her family, and possibly risk death itself
4. What is Juliet’s answer to the Friar in her effort to convince him that she will do anything to
   avoid the marriage with Paris (lines 76-88)? She’d jump off buildings, be chained to a tree with
   wild bears, buried alive with rotting flesh, etc, all to avoid marrying paris
5. Detail Friar Laurence’s plan as described in lines 89-120. Go home, go to bed by yourself, take
   this potion. It will make you seem dead for 42 hours. Then you will wake and Romeo will take you
   off and you can live together while people think you are dead.

ACT 4 SCENE 2
1. What is Juliet saying in lines 17-18? She is sorry that she has disrespected her father so she
   went to confess her sins so she can apologize

ACT 4 SCENE 3
1. What is Juliet doing in lines 14 – 23? She is talking about how she’s afraid to take the potion,
   and she sets a dagger next to her in case it doesn’t work so she can kill herself in the morning if
   she wakes up
2. What is the importance of lines 55-59? She sees the ghosts of Tybalt and Romeo, which she’ll
   see their bodies when she eventually does wake up. Also, the potion kicking in and she’s starting
to dream

ACT 4 SCENE 4
1. What is revealed about Capulet in lines 7-12? What kind of language is used? He’s a bit of a
   womanizer, chases after women like cats chase after mice.

Act 4 Scene 5
2. In lines 29 – 29, note the figurative language that is used. Who is it describing? Juliet, in her
   death state
3. Who is the “him’ in line 37? Death, her new husband
4. What is the purpose of the interlude with the musicians in lines 100-101? To show that the less
   important people of Verona don’t really care that Juliet is dead, they just want to make a living
   and get paid

Act 5

Important Quotations

Scene 1
line 24
lines 80-82 What is

Questions

ACT 5 SCENE 1
1. What premonition does Romeo have at the beginning of this scene (lines 1-11)? That he was
   dead and Juliet woke him with a kiss
Romeo talking about?

Scene 2
lines 15-16

Scene 3
lines 37-39
lines 59-60
lines 87-91 Discuss light imagery.
lines 209-210 What is revealed?
lines 228-229 lines 298-299 How does this relate to the quote about Romeo and gold?

2. What news does Balthazar bring? How does this disrupt the Friar’s plan? That Juliet is dead. Romeo hasn’t yet heard from the Friar so he doesn’t know that she’s not really dead
3. Summarize Line 24. Why is this a bold thing to say? He has left his whole life up to the ‘stars’ until this point, but then he says he’s going to start making his own decisions. It’s bold because it could make the god’s mad and they could take it out on him
4. What does Romeo decide to do after he hears Balthazar’s story (lines 34-57)? Go to Verona and lie forever with Juliet (kill himself)

ACT 5 SCENE 2
1. What story does Friar John tell Friar Laurence as explanation as to why he could not deliver the letter to Romeo? There was a plague in Verona and he wasn’t allowed to leave because they thought he’d take the plague with him and spread it (quarantine)

ACT 5 SCENE 3
1. What does Romeo notice about Juliet? Explain the dramatic irony in lines 91-96 Her lips are still red and her cheeks have colour, looks like death has not yet taken her over. Ironic because we know she’s not dead
5. What does Juliet realize about the situation in line 167? That someone is coming so she needs to act quick
6. Explain the lines 169-170 She has given the dagger a new home, or sheath, in her body (stabs herself)