

Romeo and Juliet: A Tragedy Play

Romeo and Juliet is one of Shakespeare’s most famous tragedies.

A _____ is a story about serious and important actions that ends unhappily.

In most tragedies, _____ hits innocent characters. In others, the main characters are responsible for their _____. (Often, the main characters die).

The Structure of the Play

Romeo and Juliet begins with a prologue. A _____ is an introduction to the storyline. Romeo and Juliet’s prologue gives away the entire play. (Ask yourself: Why would Shakespeare decide to do this?)

A play is split up into _____, and acts are split up into _____.

In tragedy plays, the plotline general unfolds like this:

_____ : introduces setting, main characters, and conflict; (Prologue/Act One)

_____ : the conflict escalates (Act Two)

_____ : when the main characters decide on a course of action that determines the conflict’s outcome; (Act Three)

_____ : the moment of greatest emotional intensity and often occurs the death of the main characters (Act Four)

_____ : loose plot ends are tied up/cleared up (Act Five)

Characters in Romeo and Juliet

The Montagues	The Capulets	The Others (Neutral)
Romeo Lord Capulet Lady Capulet Benvolio Balthasar (servant) Abraham (servant)	Juliet Lord Capulet Lady Capulet The Nurse Tybalt Sampson Gregory Peter	The Chorus Rosaline Paris Prince Escalus Friar Lawrence Friar John The Apothecary