

Look again at some of the key moments in the play *Romeo and Juliet*. Who do you think is to blame for the lovers' deaths and why? Choose one or two characters who you think played a major role in the deaths of the young couple and discuss the reasons for their guilt.

You must write in full sentences, use paragraphs to divide up your work and use *short appropriate* quotations from the play.

Remember to use the format: PEA – Point; Evidence; Analysis.

Here are some of the characters you might want to consider discussing:

- The lovers and their apparent disregard for their parents;
- The Capulets and Montagues and their continued fighting;
- Tybalt aggressively seeking revenge on Romeo;
- The Nurse for helping and then apparently abandoning Juliet;
- Friar Lawrence for misguidedly helping the two lovers;
- More minor characters intervening such as Mercutio; Friar John; Paris; the Prince.

Key moments in the play are:

- Act 1 Scene 1: The initial fight scene and the Prince's reaction;
- Act 1 Scene 2: Romeo and Benvolio discussing Rosaline;
- Act 1 Scene 5: The party;
- Act 2 Scene 2: The balcony scene;
- Act 2 Scene 3: Romeo speaks to Friar Lawrence about marrying Juliet;
- Act 3 Scene 1: Mercutio describes the deaths of Mercutio and Tybalt;
- Act 3 Scene 3: Romeo talks to Friar Lawrence about being banished;
- Act 3 Scene 5: Juliet is told to marry Paris;
- Act 4 Scene 1: Juliet visits Friar Lawrence;
- Act 5 Scene 4: The end of the play.

You do not need to go through every character or re-read every scene – pick out quotations which are appropriate to the characters you are writing about.