

Investigating Act One Scene Five

1. Fill in the table below, using your understanding of the play to complete the gaps:

Point	Evidence	Analysis (or Exploration)
The mood is cheerful at the opening of the scene and Capulet is particularly jovial.	'Welcome gentlemen ... Welcome gentlemen ... You are welcome, gentlemen.' (Capulet)	The repetition of the word 'welcome' highlights to the audience that the party is a time of celebration and friendship.
	'What lady's that which doth enrich the hand / Of yonder knight?' (Romeo)	
	'Did my heart love you now? Forswear it sight; / For I never saw true beauty till this night.' (Romeo)	
Tybalt is an impetuous character and is immediately angered when he sees Romeo at the masked dance.		The audience can see by Tybalt's reaction that he is a violent character and will want to get his revenge, even if he can not do so immediately.

Point	Evidence	Analysis (or Exploration)
<p>Capulet repeats one of Tybalt's words and then uses a number of questions to stop him confronting Romeo.</p>		
<p>Romeo and Juliet's first words together form a sonnet, a poem usually about ...</p>		<p>This highlights to the audience that ...</p>
<p>Both Romeo and Juliet afterwards speak a number of lines which prophesise their deaths.</p>		

2. Now think about what this shows us about events either earlier or later in the play. For example:
- a What do Romeo's first words in this scene show us about his love for Rosaline?
 - b Capulet is cheerful at the beginning of the scene but quickly angered by Tybalt's comments. Why might Shakespeare have him behave like this? When does he behave like this later in the play and what are the consequences?
 - c Who is Juliet supposed to be showing an interest in? Would her actions here (remember she kisses Romeo at the end of the sonnet) have surprised an Elizabethan audience? Why would this be?
 - d Why does Juliet ask about Romeo? Is the other person's reaction here surprising? At which events later in the play might an audience think back to this moment?