

Romeo & Juliet

by William Shakespeare

Access the *Romeo and Juliet* **Topic Page** through your assigned Gale resource. Use the **Topic Page** before, during, and after reading the play to help answer the questions below.

BEFORE READING:

Use *Gale In Context* to answer the following.

1. What previous work was Romeo and Juliet based on?

2. Romeo and Juliet was written during the Elizabethan Era of England. Why was the theatre popular during this time?

3. What societal norms were in place surrounding the theatre, both for the actors and for the audience?

4. What were theatre companies and what was their role in the theatre of the time?

5. Who were some other notable playwrights of the day? Name a few of their works.

6. What theatre was the most famous and who owned it?

7. What other writings is William Shakespeare known for?

From your own knowledge before you read.

1. What do you already know about Romeo and Juliet?

2. What are your thoughts on fate and destiny?

DURING READING:

As you read *Romeo & Juliet*, take notes on the developments of the characters in the play, how do you meet each character, how does your understanding of them change as they go through the book, why does it change. Make sure to be specific with examples (include page numbers).

CHARACTERS	
Romeo Montague	
Juliet Capulet	
Friar Laurence	
Mercutio	

CHARACTERS

Tybalt Capulet

Nurse

Lord & Lady Capulet

Lord & Lady Montague

Benvolio

Paris

The Prince

DURING READING:

The following are the themes depicted in *Romeo & Juliet*. As you read, take notes (including page numbers) of how you see these themes portrayed in the play.

THEMES	
Love & Passion	
Fate & Destiny	
Appearance vs. Reality	
Conflict & Violence	

Describe how the literary device below is seen and portrayed throughout the play.

LITERARY DEVICE	
Uses of light and dark throughout the play	

AFTER READING:

1. Do you think the relationship between Romeo and Juliet was doomed from the start?

2. To what extent do you think Romeo and Juliet's love is genuine? How does their love evolve throughout the play?

3. What do you think the overall lesson is from the story?

4. Use the **News** and **Magazine** section of the *Romeo and Juliet* **Topic Page** in your Gale resource, are there any modern adaptations of *Romeo and Juliet* being discussed? Why do you think the story of Romeo and Juliet is still so prominent today?

Complete the plot diagram below, filling in events for each element of the story including the exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution.

