



The classic story of Romeo and Juliet, set in a modern-day city of Verona. The Montagues and Capulets are two feuding families, whose children meet and fall in love. They have to hide their love from the world because they know that their parents will not allow them to be together. There are obstacles on the way, like Juliet's cousin, Tybalt, and Romeo's friend Mercutio, and many fights. But although it is set in modern times, it is still the same timeless story of the "star crossed lovers".

English exercises for: Romeo + Juliet

**“No Child is fully educated or
Adequately prepared to live in an
Increasingly technological world
Without understanding the meaning
And beauty transmitted by the Arts.”
-J.P. Getty Trust**

Before watching the play

1. Go over the following vocabulary. Look up the words in the dictionary if necessary.

To go rot	Admired
To spot	Convenient
To bear	Omen
To mock	Forefinger
Fool	Supper
To draw	To foresee
Hell	Providence
Montagues	Critical
Imprisonment	Maid
Brawl	Brief
Hatred	To court
To disturb	To flirt
Forfeit	To smooth
Woe	Eagerness
Lightness	Tender
Rough	Despair
Tyrannous	To set foot
Darkness	Villain
Pathways	Foe
Will	Wealth
Rosaline	Worst
To examine	To remove
To hold	To reach
Feast	Wing
Fair	To attempt
Assembly	Circumstance

Vow
To assign
To swear
To fail
Almighty
Property
To heal
Poisonous
Troubled
To feast
Likewise
Concise
Plain
To consent
To manage
Delusion
To punish
Alliance
Rancour
Wisely
To stumble
Delight
Moderately
To stir
To blow
Apt
Two peas in a pod
To get you for
Rage
Farewell
Dearly
Vile
Submission
Sidekick
Scratch
Courage
To curse
To banish

Banishment
Exile
Law
To threaten
Blessing
To comfort
Mantua
To reconcile
Lamentation
To profess
To speak ill
Meteor
Tomb
Sudden
Bride
Unworthy
Spoiled
Disobedient
To beg
To starve
To displease
Mass
Wisdom
To back up
To deprive
Stiff
Stark
Vault
Vial
Distilling
Liquor
Mixture
Custom
Failure
Damage
Poison
To disperse
To tempt

2. Put each word/expression from the vocabulary in Activity 1 in its corresponding column of the chart below:

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Verb</u>	<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Adverb</u>
Fool	To go rot	Rough	Likewise

3. A famous love story:

A long time ago, in Verona, there were two _____ who were always _____.

The Capulets _____ a daughter called _____.

The Montagues _____ a son called _____.

One night they _____ at a ball in the Capulets' house and they instantly _____ in love.

Unfortunately, Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, saw Romeo and was furious. Tybalt told his friends to _____ him out, so Romeo had to leave early.

Later, as Juliet was thinking about _____ on her balcony, she said: "Why _____?"

Then, he arrived. They talked and decided to _____ in secret because they knew their families would disapprove.

The next day Tybalt saw Romeo in the street and wanted to _____ him. Romeo didn't want to _____ but his best friend, _____, did.

Romeo got very _____ when Tybalt killed _____, so he picked up a sword and _____ Tybalt.

Therefore, the Prince of Verona decided to _____ Romeo away.

Juliet went to Friar Lawrence to get some _____. He gave her a _____ and thought of a plan. They wanted everyone to believe she was _____. They _____ a letter to Romeo to tell him the plan but he didn't _____ the message.

When he heard that Juliet _____ dead, he decided to _____ too, because he wanted to be with _____ forever.

When she _____, she found him _____ and killed herself too.

Finally, Friar Lawrence told _____ what had happened. They were so _____ that they _____ not to fight anymore.

4. Who's who?

- 1) Juliet is the Capulets' _____ .
- 2) Romeo is the _____ son.
- 3) Tybalt is _____ cousin.
- 4) Mercutio is _____ .
- 5) Friar Lawrence is _____ accomplice.

5. What do they want?

- 1) The Capulets and the Montague always want _____ .
- 2) Tybalt doesn't want _____ to be at the ball.
- 3) Romeo and Juliet want _____ .
- 4) They want friar _____ to _____ .
- 5) Mercutio wants _____ .
- 6) Romeo doesn't want to _____ Tybalt but ends up killing him!
- 7) The two lovers don't want _____ without each other.

6. About the author:

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford on April 23rd, 1564. His father, John Shakespeare, was an important man in town – William didn't come from a poor family.

When he was eighteen, William married Anne Hathaway in Stratford, but he didn't want to stay there. He wanted to be an actor and the best theatres were in London. So, in 1587, William went to London, where he worked as an actor in a theatre called The Rose.

He began to write plays for the actors. He wrote Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar, Richard II, Antony and Cleopatra and many more. Everyone liked his plays, and he became famous.

When James I became king in 1603, Shakespeare worked for him, and performed his plays for the King and his friends. He also worked at the famous Globe Theatre presenting there his last play, Henry VIII. There was a gun in this play, and the fire from the gun burned the theatre down.

In 1610, Shakespeare went back to Stratford. He wanted to live there with his family, but he died on April 23rd, 1610. He was only forty-six years old.



A. Read the text and answer the questions.

1. How old was Shakespeare when he got married?

2. What was his wife's name?

3. Why did Shakespeare go to London?

4. What was the name of the first theatre he worked in?

5. What was he famous for?



B. Fill in the table with what happened in Shakespeare's life in these years.

1564	
1582	
1587	
1603	
1610	

7. Watch the following video and complete the Synopsis from the play:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7daty_pV_5o

The chorus sets the scene as Verona where two _____ (1) the Montagues and the Capulets, feud. The play then erupts onto the streets of _____ (2) and the brawl between the families. The Prince of Verona intervenes to _____ (3) the fighting and old Capulet agrees to betroth his daughter, Juliet, to the Prince's young kinsman, Paris. Old Capulet arranges a masked ball to _____ (4).

Young Romeo Montague and his friends, including the witty Mercutio, sneak into the ball to get a glimpse of Rosaline Capulet, the object of Romeo's unrequited _____ (5). Instead, Romeo meets Juliet Capulet, Rosaline's cousin, and is overwhelmed by her _____ (6).

Later that night, Romeo, lingering below Juliet's _____ (7), overhears Juliet's avowal of love for _____ (8).

He makes himself known to her and the pair resolve to _____ (9), the following night. Friar Laurence and Juliet's nurse agree to help them, hoping the union will

_____ (10) the feud. Romeo and Juliet are secretly married by
_____ (11). The next day, Mercutio taunts Tybalt Capulet, Juliet's cousin, a hot-tempered young man, and the two begin to fence. Romeo tries to break up the fight but Tybalt fatally wounds Mercutio. Romeo kills Tybalt in revenge and the Prince _____ (12) Romeo from _____ (13), to _____ (14). Romeo and Juliet spend their wedding night together before Romeo flees to Mantua.

Juliet's wedding to Paris is arranged.

Desperate, Juliet asks Friar Laurence for help. He advises her to take a sleeping potion which will make her seem _____ (15), for _____ (16). The Friar will send a message to Romeo in Mantua who can then rescue her from the family tomb when she awakens. Juliet goes ahead with the plan and is found, apparently dead, in her _____ (17). The Friar's message does not reach Romeo, and he hears only of Juliet's _____ (18).

Grief-stricken, Romeo rushes back to Verona and creeps into the Capulet tomb where he meets Paris.

The two fight and Paris is _____ (19). Romeo lays down besides Juliet's body, takes poison, and dies. Not long after, Juliet regains consciousness and finds Romeo dead.

Heartbroken, she tries to take the poison from his _____ (20), with a kiss but death alludes her. So, she stabs herself and dies. As the bodies are discovered, Friar Laurence explains the story to the Prince, who lambastes the families whose feuding has brought about this tragedy. Horrified by the sorry situation the Montagues and the Capulets end their feud.

8. Listening comprehension:

Songs from the play:

- Read the lyrics and underline the words you don't understand.
- Listen and follow the lyrics.
- Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.
- Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.
- Listen and sing each line from the song.
- Sing the whole song.

Scene from the play:

- Read the whole scene and underline the words you don't understand.
- Listen and follow it in the script.
- Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.
- Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.
- Listen and repeat each line from the script.
- Read the whole scene with a partner.

9. Find the matching Original and Modern Texts taken from the play:

<p>TYBALT What, art thou drawn among these heartless hinds? Turn thee, Benvolio. Look upon thy death.</p>	<p>TYBALT What? You take out your sword and then talk about peace? I hate the word peace like I hate hell, all Montagues, and you. Let's go at it, coward!</p>
<p>BENVOLIO I do but keep the peace. Put up thy sword, Or manage it to part these men with me.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Good morning, cousin.</p>
<p>TYBALT What, drawn, and talk of peace? I hate the word, As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee. Have at thee, coward!</p>	<p>TYBALT What? You've pulled out your sword to fight with these worthless servants? Turn around, Benvolio, and look at the man who's going to kill you.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO My noble uncle, do you know the cause?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO It was. What's making you so sad and your hours so long?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Have you importuned him by any means?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO It's only just now nine o'clock.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Good morrow, cousin.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO I'm only trying to keep the peace. Either put away your sword or use it to help me stop this fight.</p>
<p>ROMEO Is the day so young?</p>	<p>ROMEO I love someone. She doesn't love me.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO But new struck nine.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Have you done everything you could to make him tell you the reason?</p>
<p>ROMEO Ay me! Sad hours seem long. Was that my father that went hence so fast?</p>	<p>ROMEO I don't have the thing that makes time fly.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO It was. What sadness lengthens Romeo's hours?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO My noble uncle, do you know why he acts this way?</p>
<p>ROMEO Not having that which, having, makes them short.</p>	<p>ROMEO Oh my, time goes by slowly when you're sad. Was that my father who left here in such a hurry?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO In love?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Out of love?</p>
<p>ROMEO Out.</p>	<p>ROMEO Out.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Of love?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO You're in love?</p>
<p>ROMEO Out of her favor, where I am in love.</p>	<p>ROMEO Is it that early in the day?</p>

10. Watch the film and complete the Prologue with the following words:

attend; dignity; foes; life; love; mend; mutiny; overthrows; rage; remove; scene; stage; strife; unclean

Two households, both alike in _____ ,
In fair Verona where we lay our _____ ,
From ancient grudge, break to new _____ ,
Where civil blood makes civil hands _____ .
From forth the fatal loins of these two _____ .
A pair of star-crossed lovers take their _____ ;
Whose misadventured piteous _____
Doth with their death bury their parents' _____ .
The fearful passage of their death-marked _____ ,
And the continuance of their parents' _____ ,
Which, but their children's end, nought could _____ ,
Is now the two hours' traffic of our _____ ;
The which if you with patient ears _____ ,
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to _____ .

(grudge=resentment)

(foe=enemy)

(star-crossed=unlucky)

(take their life=commit suicide)

(overthrow=defeat)

(strife=conflict)

(naught=nothing)

(toil= hard work)

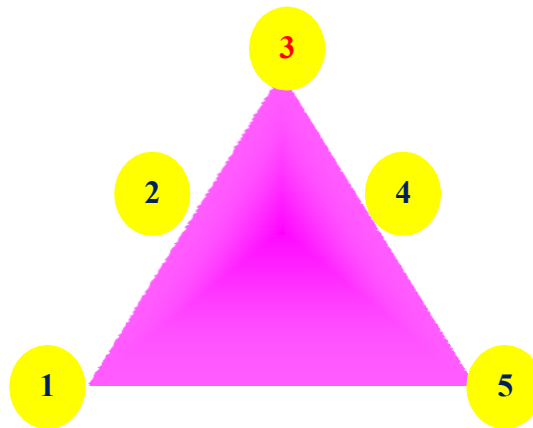
(strive= make an effort)

(mend= repair)

DISCUSSION WITH THE ACTORS

After watching the play

1. Work in groups. According to the play of Romeo + Juliet give one or more examples for each part of the plot structure.



1. **Exposition (Introduction):**
Important events or information, that happened before the action started and the spectator needs to know (the mood and conditions existing at the beginning of the play; the time and place; main characters and their positions; circumstances and relationships).
2. **Rising Action:**
The action, which builds suspense by conflict and leads to the climax.
3. **Climax (turning point):**
The highest point of the action or the most intense moment (mentally/ in action), where the hero does something or makes a decision that will lead to his/her downfall.
4. **Falling Action:**
The action that follows the climax and leads to resolution. In a tragedy, the antagonist is largely driving the action in the falling action.
5. **Resolution (Catastrophe):**
The conclusion that ties together most of the plot elements.

2. Change the story

1. Try to interpret Shakespeare's traditional tragic ending of Romeo and Juliet differently.

Write an alternative ending (humorous, satisfying, happy ending...)

3. Diary

1. Write a diary about recent events as Romeo/Juliet/Fulgencio.

2. In the final scene everybody ends up killed. Write your thoughts as if you were a member of the royal family.

4. Report

1. Write a report about the final incident, pretending to be a private investigator/Sherlock Holmes/Hercules/a forensic investigator.

2. Pretending to be a sport reporter, write about the dual between Mercutio and Tybalt.

5. Article

1. Write a gossip article for a tabloid magazine about Romeo's and Juliet's marriage or Mercutio's death.

2. Write an article for a historical magazine. State the circumstances which led to the Tybalt's murder.

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Rosaline	Worst
To examine	To remove
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Fair	To attempt
Assembly	Circumstance

Vow
To assign
To swear
To fail
Almighty
Property
To heal
Poisonous
Troubled
To feast
Likewise
Concise
Plain
To consent
To manage
Delusion
To punish
Alliance
Rancour
Wisely
To stumble
Delight
Moderately
To stir
To blow
Apt
Two peas in a pod
To get you for
Rage
Farewell
Dearly
Vile
Submission
Sidekick
Scratch
Courage
To curse
To banish

Banishment
Exile
Law
To threaten
Blessing
To comfort
Mantua
To reconcile
Lamentation
To profess
To speak ill
Meteor
Tomb
Sudden
Bride
Unworthy
Spoiled
Disobedient
To beg
To starve
To displease
Mass
Wisdom
To back up
To deprive
Stiff
Stark
Vault
Vial
Distilling
Liquor
Mixture
Custom
Failure
Damage
Poison
To disperse
To tempt

2. Put each word/expression from the vocabulary in Activity 1 in its corresponding column of the chart below:

<u>Noun</u>	<u>Verb</u>	<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Adverb</u>
Fool	To go rot	Rough	Likewise
Hell	To spot	Rough	Wisely
Montagues	To bear	Tyrannous	Moderately
Imprisonment	To mock	Fair	Dearly
Brawl	To draw	Admired	
Hatred	To disturb	Convenient	
Forfeit	To examine	Critical	
Woe	To hold	Brief	
Lightness	To foresee	Tender	
Darkness	To court	Worst	
Pathways	To flirt	Almighty	
Will	To smooth	Troubled	
Feast	To set foot	Concise	
Assembly	To remove	Plain	
Omen	To reach	Apt	
Forefinger	To attempt	Vile	
Supper	To assign	Sudden	
Providence	To swear	Unworthy	
Maid	To fail	Spoiled	
Eagerness	To heal	Disobedient	
Despair	To feast	Stiff	
Villain	To consent	Stark	
Foe	To manage	Distilling	
Wealth	To punish		
Wing	To stumble		
Circumstance	To stir		
Vow	To blow		
Property	To get you for		
Delusion	To curse		
Alliance	To banish		
Rancour	To threaten		
Delight	To comfort		
Rage	To reconcile		
Farewell	To profess		

Submission	To speak ill		
Sidekick	To beg		
Scratch	To starve		
Courage	To displease		
Banishment	To back up		
Exile	To deprive		
Law	To disperse		
Blessing	To tempt		
Mantua			
Lamentation			
Meteor			
Tomb			
Bride			
Mass			
Wisdom			
Vault			
Vial			
Liquor			
Mixture			
Custom			
Failure			
Damage			
Poison			

3. A famous love story:

A long time ago, in Verona, there were two **families** who were always **fighting**.

The Capulets **had** a daughter called **Juliet**.

The Montagues **had** a son called **Romeo**.

One night they **met** at a ball in the Capulets' house and they instantly **fell** in love.

Unfortunately, Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, saw Romeo and was furious. Tybalt told his friends to **throw/kick** him out, so Romeo had to leave early.

Later, as Juliet was thinking about **him** on her balcony, she said: "Why **him/my enemy**?"

Then, he arrived. They talked and decided to **get married** in secret because they knew their families would disapprove.

The next day Tybalt saw Romeo in the street and wanted to **kill** him. Romeo didn't want to **fight** but his best friend, **Mercutio**, did.

Romeo got very **angry** when Tybalt killed **Romeo**, so he picked up a sword and **killed** Tybalt.

Therefore, the Prince of Verona decided to **banish** Romeo away.

Juliet went to Friar Lawrence to get some **help/advice**. He gave her a **vial/potion** and he thought of a plan. They wanted everyone to believe she was **dead**. They **wrote** a letter to Romeo to tell him the plan but he didn't **get/receive** the message.

When he heard that Juliet **was** dead, he decided to **die** too, because he wanted to be with **her** forever.

When she **woke up**, she found him **dead** and killed herself too.

Finally, Friar Lawrence told **both their families** what had happened. They were so **regretful/sad/ashamed** that they **did** not to fight anymore.

4. Who's who?

- 1) Juliet is the Capulets' **daughter**.
- 2) Romeo is the **Montagues** son.
- 3) Tybalt is **Juliet's** cousin.
- 4) Mercutio is **Romeo's friend**.
- 5) Friar Lawrence is **Romeo's and Juliet's** accomplice.

5. What do they want?

- 1) The Capulets and the Montague always want **to fight**.
- 2) Tybalt doesn't want **Romeo** to be at the ball.
- 3) Romeo and Juliet want **to marry**.
- 4) They want friar **Lawrence** to **marry them**.
- 5) Mercutio wants **to kill Tybalt**.
- 6) Romeo doesn't want to **fight** Tybalt but ends up killing him!
- 7) The two lovers don't want **to live/to keep on living** without each other.

6. About the author:

William Shakespeare was born in Stratford on April 23rd, 1564. His father, John Shakespeare, was an important man in town – William didn't come from a poor family.

When he was eighteen, William married Anne Hathaway in Stratford, but he didn't want to stay there. He wanted to be an actor and the best theatres were in London. So, in 1587, William went to London, where he worked as an actor in a theatre called The Rose.

He began to write plays for the actors. He wrote Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar, Richard II, Antony and Cleopatra and many more. Everyone liked his plays, and he became famous.

When James I became king in 1603, Shakespeare worked for him, and performed his plays for the King and his friends. He also worked at the famous Globe Theatre presenting there his last play, Henry VIII. There was a gun in this play, and the fire from the gun burned the theatre down.

In 1610, Shakespeare went back to Stratford. He wanted to live there with his family, but he died on April 23rd, 1610. He was only forty-six years old.



A. Read the text and answer the questions.

1. How old was Shakespeare when he got married?

He was eighteen years old.

2. What was his wife's name?

Her name was Ann.

3. Why did Shakespeare go to London?

Because he wanted to be an actor and the best theatres were there.

4. What was the name of the first theatre he worked in?

It was called The Rose.

5. What was he famous for?

He was famous for his writing skills.



B. Fill in the table with what happened in Shakespeare's life in these years.

1564	William Shakespeare was born.
1582	He got married.
1587	He went to London.
1603	He played for King James I.
1610	He went back to Stratford.

7. Watch the following video and complete the Synopsis from the play:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7daty_pV_5o

The chorus sets the scene as Verona where two families the Montagues and the Capulets, feud. The play then erupts onto the streets of Verona and the brawl between the families. The Prince of Verona intervenes to stop the fighting and old Capulet agrees to betroth his daughter, Juliet, to the Prince's young kinsman, Paris. Old Capulet arranges a masked ball to celebrate.

Young Romeo Montague and his friends, including the witty Mercutio, sneak into the ball to get a glimpse of Rosaline Capulet, the object of Romeo's unrequited love. Instead, Romeo meets Juliet Capulet, Rosaline's cousin, and is overwhelmed by her beauty.

Later that night, Romeo, lingering below Juliet's balcony, overhears Juliet's avowal of love for him.

He makes himself known to her and the pair resolve to marry, the following night. Friar Laurence and Juliet's nurse agree to help them, hoping the union will end the feud. Romeo and Juliet are secretly married by Friar Lawrence. The next day, Mercutio taunts Tybalt Capulet, Juliet's cousin, a hot-tempered young man, and the two begin to fence. Romeo tries to break up the fight but Tybalt fatally wounds

Mercutio. Romeo kills Tybalt in revenge and the Prince **banishes** Romeo from **Verona**, to **Mantua**. Romeo and Juliet spend their wedding night together before Romeo flees to Mantua.

Juliet's wedding to Paris is arranged.

Desperate, Juliet asks Friar Laurence for help. He advises her to take a sleeping potion which will make her seem **dead**, for **forty-two hours**. The Friar will send a message to Romeo in Mantua who can then rescue her from the family tomb when she awakens. Juliet goes ahead with the plan and is found, apparently dead, in her **bed**. The Friar's message does not reach Romeo, and he hears only of Juliet's **death**.

Grief-stricken, Romeo rushes back to Verona and creeps into the Capulet tomb where he meets Paris.

The two fight and Paris is **killed**. Romeo lays down besides Juliet's body, takes poison, and dies. Not long after, Juliet regains consciousness and finds Romeo dead. Heartbroken, she tries to take the poison from his **lips**, with a kiss but death alludes her. So, she stabs herself and dies. As the bodies are discovered, Friar Laurence explains the story to the Prince, who lambastes the families whose feuding has brought about this tragedy. Horrified by the sorry situation the Montagues and the Capulets end their feud.

8. Listening comprehension:

Songs from the play:

- Read the lyrics and underline the words you don't understand.
- Listen and follow the lyrics.
- Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.
- Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.
- Listen and sing each line from the song.
- Sing the whole song.

Scene from the play:

- Read the whole scene and underline the words you don't understand.
- Listen and follow it in the script.
- Try to deduce the meaning of the words you don't understand from the context.
- Look up the words you still don't understand in the dictionary.
- Listen and repeat each line from the script.
- Read the whole scene with a partner.

9. Find the matching Original and Modern Texts taken from the play:

<p>TYBALT What, art thou drawn among these heartless hinds? Turn thee, Benvolio. Look upon thy death.</p>	<p>TYBALT What? You've pulled out your sword to fight with these worthless servants? Turn around, Benvolio, and look at the man who's going to kill you.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO I do but keep the peace. Put up thy sword, Or manage it to part these men with me.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO I'm only trying to keep the peace. Either put away your sword or use it to help me stop this fight.</p>
<p>TYBALT What, drawn, and talk of peace? I hate the word, As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee. Have at thee, coward!</p>	<p>TYBALT What? You take out your sword and then talk about peace? I hate the word peace like I hate hell, all Montagues, and you. Let's go at it, coward!</p>
<p>BENVOLIO My noble uncle, do you know the cause?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO My noble uncle, do you know why he acts this way?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Have you importuned him by any means?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Have you done everything you could to make him tell you the reason?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Good morrow, cousin.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Good morning, cousin.</p>
<p>ROMEO Is the day so young?</p>	<p>ROMEO Is it that early in the day?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO But new struck nine.</p>	<p>BENVOLIO It's only just now nine o'clock.</p>
<p>ROMEO Ay me! Sad hours seem long. Was that my father that went hence so fast?</p>	<p>ROMEO Oh my, time goes by slowly when you're sad. Was that my father who left here in such a hurry?</p>
<p>BENVOLIO It was. What sadness lengthens Romeo's hours?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO It was. What's making you so sad and your hours so long?</p>
<p>ROMEO Not having that which, having, makes them short.</p>	<p>ROMEO I don't have the thing that makes time fly.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO In love?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO You're in love?</p>
<p>ROMEO Out.</p>	<p>ROMEO Out.</p>
<p>BENVOLIO Of love?</p>	<p>BENVOLIO Out of love?</p>
<p>ROMEO Out of her favor, where I am in love.</p>	<p>ROMEO I love someone. She doesn't love me.</p>

10. Watch the film and complete the Prologue with the following words:

attend; dignity; foes; life; love; mend; mutiny; overthrows; rage; remove; scene; stage; strife; unclean

Two households, both alike in **dignity**,
In fair Verona where we lay our **scene**,
From ancient grudge, break to new **mutiny**,
Where civil blood makes civil hands **unclean**.
From forth the fatal loins of these two **foes**.
A pair of star-crossed lovers take their **life**;
Whose misadventured piteous **overthrows**
Doth with their death bury their parents' **strife**.
The fearful passage of their death-marked **love**,
And the continuance of their parents' **rage**,
Which, but their children's end, nought could **remove**,
Is now the two hours' traffic of our **stage**;
The which if you with patient ears **attend**,
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to **mend**.

(grudge=resentment)

(foe=enemy)

(star-crossed=unlucky)

(take their life=commit suicide)

(overthrow=defeat)

(strife=conflict)

(naught=nothing)

(toil= hard work)

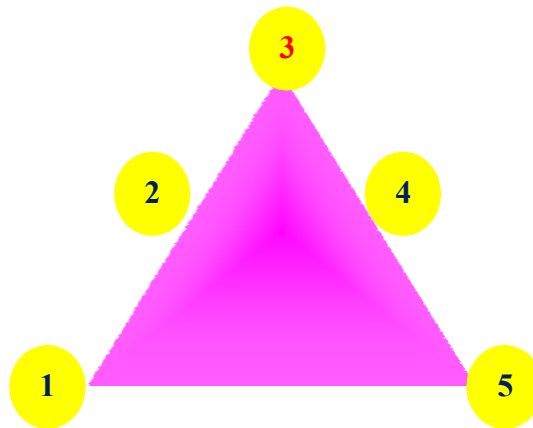
(strive= make an effort)

(mend= repair)

DISCUSSION WITH THE ACTORS

After watching the play

1. Work in groups. According to the play of Romeo + Juliet give one or more examples for each part of the plot structure.



1. **Exposition (Introduction):**
Important events or information, that happened before the action started and the spectator needs to know (the mood and conditions existing at the beginning of the play; the time and place; main characters and their positions; circumstances and relationships).
2. **Rising Action:**
The action, which builds suspense by conflict and leads to the climax.
3. **Climax (turning point):**
The highest point of the action or the most intense moment (mentally/ in action), where the hero does something or makes a decision that will lead to his/her downfall.
4. **Falling Action:**
The action that follows the climax and leads to resolution. In a tragedy, the antagonist is largely driving the action in the falling action.
5. **Resolution (Catastrophe):**
The conclusion that ties together most of the plot elements.

2. Change the story

1. Try to interpret Shakespeare's traditional tragic ending of Romeo and Juliet differently.

Write an alternative ending (humorous, satisfying, happy ending...)

3. Diary

1. Write a diary about recent events as Romeo/Juliet/Fulgencio.

2. In the final scene everybody ends up killed. Write your thoughts as if you were a member of the royal family.

4. Report

1. Write a report about the final incident, pretending to be a private investigator/Sherlock Holmes/Hercules/a forensic investigator.

2. Pretending to be a sport reporter, write about the dual between Mercutio and Tybalt.

5. Article

1. Write a gossip article for a tabloid magazine about Romeo's and Juliet's marriage or Mercutio's death.

2. Write an article for a historical magazine. State the circumstances which led to the Tybalt's murder.