

GRAYS TUITION CENTRE – Online Tutoring

WEEK: 5

Week Beginning: (18/01/2021)

Subject: ENGLISH

Year: 7

Lesson Objective:

- To be able to understand and make analytical comments on Shakespeare’s “Romeo and Juliet”.
- To be able to comment on Shakespeare’s use of imagery, choice of characters and use of sonnets.

Keywords/ Concepts

- Romeo and Juliet
- Character development
- Sonnet

Class Worksheets

- For class work- Two scenes from Romeo and Juliet.
- Table on a character.
- Worksheet on agree/ disagree on some statements on the sonnet provided.

Homework Worksheets

- Mask worksheet.

Additional Notes

Mercutio's words

Mercutio

O, then, I see Queen Mab hath been with you.
She is the fairies' midwife, and she comes
In shape no bigger than an agate-stone
On the fore-finger of an alderman,
Drawn with a team of little atomies
Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep;
Her wagon-spokes made of long spinners' legs,
The cover of the wings of grasshoppers,
The traces of the smallest spider's web,
The collars of the moonshine's watery beams,
Her whip of cricket's bone, the lash of film,
Her wagoner a small grey-coated gnat,
Not so big as a round little worm
Prick'd from the lazy finger of a maid;
Her chariot is an empty hazel-nut
Made by the joiner squirrel or old grub,
Time out o' mind the fairies' coachmakers.
And in this state she gallops night by night
Through lovers' brains, and then they dream of love;
O'er courtiers' knees, that dream on court'sies straight,
O'er lawyers' fingers, who straight dream on fees,
O'er ladies' lips, who straight on kisses dream,
Which oft the angry Mab with blisters plagues,
Because their breaths with sweetmeats tainted are:
Sometime she gallops o'er a courtier's nose,
And then dreams he of smelling out a suit;
And sometime comes she with a tithe-pig's tail
Tickling a parson's nose as a' lies asleep,
Then dreams, he of another benefice:
Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck,

Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck,
And then dreams he of cutting foreign throats,
Of breaches, ambuscadoes, Spanish blades,
Of healths five-fathom deep; and then anon
Drums in his ear, at which he starts and wakes,
And being thus frightened swears a prayer or two
And sleeps again. This is that very Mab
That plaits the manes of horses in the night,
And bakes the elflocks in foul sluttish hairs,
Which once untangled, much misfortune bodes:
This is the hag, when maids lie on their backs,
That presses them and learns them first to bear,
Making them women of good carriage.
This is she – (Act 1, Scene 4)

Circle any unfamiliar words. Colour the feature boxes below and highlight where they appear in the speech.

Images taken from
nature

Fairytale images.

Repetition

Images of everyday
professions.

Change in mood

Caesura (a break in the
middle of a line)

Describing Mercutio

1. Read Act 1, Scene 4 and complete this evidence table for Mercutio:

	Evidence from the text (quotation)	Explanation of quotation
witty	'That dreamers often lie.'	Mercutio uses the pun 'lie' to suggest the physical pose for both sleep and a lack of truth.
poetic		
imaginative		Fairytales have childish and innocent connotations.
bawdy	'... when maids lie on their backs.'	
mocking		
cynical		

Once you have completed the table, write a paragraph describing your first impressions on this character. Remember, this would be his first entrance into the play, so this is a vital point for his character, this is where a character gets judged by the audience!

- Does Mercutio believe in love? Complete a paragraph, finding evidence from Act 1, Scene 4 to support your points.

- Why do you think Mercutio is such a popular character with audiences?

Write 3-4 sentences on these main points.

- The change of tone/mood towards the end of the speech, where the choice of language becomes darker and more cynical.
- The contrast of fantasy/reality (in the use of fairytale images and everyday images).

Sharing the sonnet

Romeo and Juliet's first conversation forms a complete sonnet.

Romeo If I profane with my unworhiest hand
 This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this:
 My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
 To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.

Juliet Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,
 Which mannerly devotion shows in this;
 For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,
 And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.

Romeo Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?

Juliet Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in pray'r.

Romeo O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do!
 They pray; grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.

Juliet Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake.

Romeo Then move not while my prayer's effect I take.

(Act 1, Scene 5)

Glossary

Pilgrim	someone who travels to a holy place
Shrine	a holy place - for example a special statue of a saint
Palmers	another name for a pilgrim - because of the palm leaves they brought back from the holy land
Profane	treat with disrespect
Mannerly	polite and well-mannered

- ❖ Colour code all the matching rhyming words (for example hand/stand). What do you notice about the rhyming pattern?
- ❖ How are the last two lines different from the rest? What is the effect of these two lines?
- ❖ Look carefully at the glossary. How does Romeo use religious imagery to flirt with Juliet? How does Juliet use the same images to tease him? Why has Shakespeare chosen to use religious imagery?

Read the sonnet again and think carefully about how Shakespeare is presenting the first conversation between the two lovers.

	Agree or disagree?	Explain your reasons
Romeo overpowers Juliet with his language.		
Juliet and Romeo are very religious.		
Shakespeare wants Romeo and Juliet to share a sonnet to show their immediate unity and intense connection.		
Juliet and Romeo are enjoying playing with language.		
Juliet is not very intelligent.		

Extend your thinking: Why has Shakespeare waited until the end of Act 1 for Romeo and Juliet to meet?

Have a go! - Write your own sonnet pretending to be Romeo and Juliet. Think about their encounter. What rhymes could you add in?

Theme of religion:

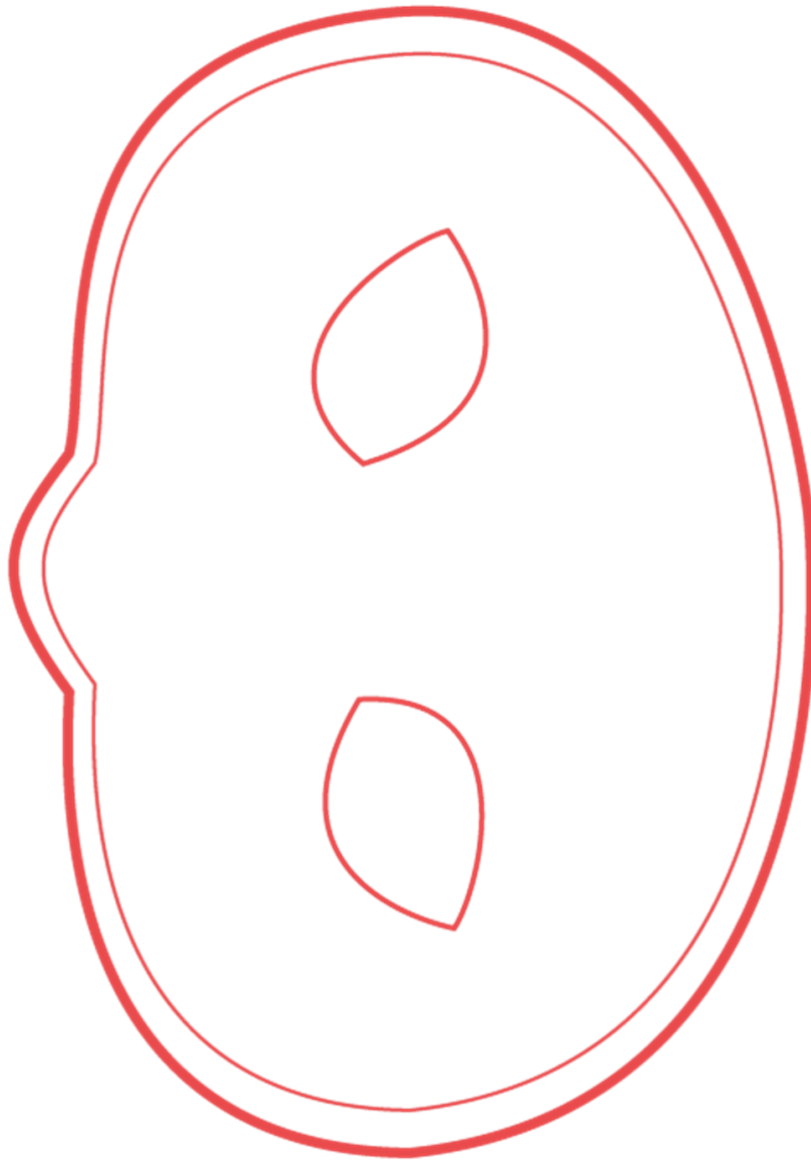
Religion was an especially important part of life in Shakespeare's time. The play is also set in Italy in the 14th century, a time when Catholicism dominated Europe.

- ❖ Shakespeare wants to emphasise the purity of Romeo and Juliet's love, so it is important that their love is sanctified by marriage quickly.
- ❖ Religion helps the audience see them as morally 'good' characters.

Task

Think back to the first conversation between Romeo and Juliet. What type of imagery did they use in their first conversation? Why did Shakespeare choose this type of imagery?

Homework:



A word mask

- Fill your mask with short phrases and words from the party scene. Include angry words from Tybalt and romantic words from Romeo (using colour to show the contrast).
- Colour code the words to show patterns (for example, all words linked to beauty could be in gold).
- Use different sizes to show the importance of a word (for example, the word LOVE could be a larger size).