

Romeo and Juliet: Theme Workbook



Major Themes: *Romeo and Juliet*

The idea the writer wishes to convey about the subject—the writer’s view of the world or a revelation about human nature.

Utilizing the table below:

1. Identify a pervading idea for each Act within *Romeo and Juliet* (i.e. Provide a few short sentences to demonstrate what Shakespeare is saying)
2. Include evidence to support your theme statement (Quotes from text)
3. Connect your theme to the adaptation discussed in class.

Utilize the box below to guide your thinking

Common topics identified within *Romeo and Juliet*

The Nature of Free Will - Honour and Obligation - The Naivety of Youth - The Power of Love and Hate
Violence and Death - Gender Roles - Revenge - The Multiplicity of Identity

An example of evidence used from text and an appropriate citation 📌

JULIET:

“Tis but thy name that is my enemy; Thou art thyself, though not a Montague. What’s Montague? ...O, be some other name! What’s in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet; So Romeo would, were he not Romeo call’s, retain that dear perfection which he owes without that title.”

(*Romeo and Juliet*, Act-II, Scene-ii, Lines 38-49)

Track Your Understanding:

ACT I	Explanation
Evidence from text	<p>“Is she a Capulet? O dear account! My life is my foe’s debt.”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-I, Scene v, Lines 116-117)</i></p> <p>“His name is Romeo, and a Montague, The only son of your great enemy. ”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-I, Scene v, Lines 134-135)</i></p> <p>“My only love, sprung from my only hate! Too early seen unknown, and known too late! Prodigious birth of love it is to me That I must love a loathed enemy. ”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-I, Scene v, Lines 136-139)</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Topic Revealed 2. Idea writer wishes to convey 	<p>Forbidden love</p> <p>Romeo loves Juliet even though she is a Capulet, his family’s sworn enemy</p>
Connection to Adaptation	In <i>Warm Bodies</i> , R is a zombie and Julie is a human but they still fall in love despite the fact they “aren’t supposed to”.

ACT II	Explanation
Evidence from text	<p>Well, do not swear. Although I joy in thee, I have no joy of this contract tonight. It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden; Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be Ere one can say “It lightens.”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-II, Scene-ii, Lines 116-120)</i></p> <p>Romeo: O, wilt thou leave me so unsatisfied? Juliet: What satisfaction canst thou have tonight? Romeo: The exchange of thy love’s faithful vow for mine. (I mean come on, they basically didn’t know each other existed like a few hours ago and they’re already planning marriage?)</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-II, Scene-ii, Lines 125-127)</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Topic Revealed 2. Idea writer wishes to convey 	<p>The naivety of youth</p> <p>Romeo is taking things too fast and Juliet feels as though they should take things slower, because when things are taken too fast, they end quicker.</p>

Connection to Adaptation	<p>An example of the naivety of youth and often the stupidity that comes with it that we see in Warm Bodies, is the fact that Julie literally wants to have sex with a dead dude.</p> <p>This is also reminiscent of The Hangover, when Stu drunkenly marries a sex worker. Alcohol makes people do childish things (Like getting married to someone you met hours before!), which is why I'm counting this as childish naivety.</p>
--------------------------	--

ACT III	Explanation
Evidence from text	<p>Romeo: Gentle Mercutio, put thy rapier up. Mercutio: Come, sir, your passado! [They fight.]</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-III, Scene-i, Lines 78-79)</i></p> <p>“Ah, well-a-day! he’s dead, he’s dead, he’s dead! We are undone, lady, we are undone! Alack the day! he’s gone, he’s killed, he’s dead!”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-III, Scene-ii, Lines 37-39)</i></p> <p>“O Romeo, Romeo, brave Mercutio’s dead! That gallant spirit hath aspired the clouds, Which too untimely here did scorn the earth. ”</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-III, Scene-i, Lines 109-111)</i></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Topic Revealed 2. Idea writer wishes to convey 	<p>Violence and death</p> <p>I feel like it’s up to the reader/audience to decide what’s conveyed here but I feel like it represents the fact that no matter how much good there is in the world, there will also be sadness, and that’s unavoidable. Romeo and Juliet is a tragedy, and that’s just what we’re seeing in this part of the play. Tragedy.</p>
Connection to Adaptation	<p>This connects to the ending scenes in Warm Bodies where Julie’s dad shoots R, only to discover that he’s bleeding, and therefore cannot be a zombie anymore.</p>

ACT IV	Explanation
Evidence from text	<p>Where I have learnt me to repent the sin of disobedient opposition to you and your behests I am enjoined by Holy Lawrence to fall prostrate here To beg your pardon. Pardon, I beseech you! Henceforward I am ever ruled by you.</p> <p><i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-IV, Scene-ii, Lines 17-22)</i></p>

1. Topic Revealed 2. Idea writer wishes to convey	The power of free will The writer wishes to convey the idea that love abides by no rules and that it is pointless to try to stop it once it happens
Connection to Adaptation	In Gnomeo and Juliet, they still love each other despite being red and blue and create a happy little purple family.

ACT V	Explanation
Evidence from text	Come hither, man. I see that thou art poor. Hold, there is forty ducats. Let me have A dram of poison, such soon-speeding gear As will disperse itself through all the veins That the life-weary taker may fall dead, And that the trunk may be discharged of breath As violently as hasty powder fired Doth hurry from the fatal cannon's womb. <i>(Romeo and Juliet, Act-V, Scene-i, Lines 58-65)</i>
1. Topic Revealed 2. Idea writer wishes to convey	The power of love and hate Romeo, believing Juliet is dead, wishes to take his own life rather than spend the rest of his life without her. This shows how powerful his love for Juliet is, despite only having known her for a few days.
Connection to Adaptation	This connects to Warm Bodies, as Julie confronted her father about R actually being a zombie knowing fair well it could have resulted in both of them being killed, but if she hadn't confessed, R would have been killed anyways