ROMEO & JULIET

STUDENT WORKSHEET

① READING TASK 1

Before reading the synopsis, read the quiz questions and try to predict the correct answers. Once you've completed your answers read the play synopsis to check your answers and change them if you need to. Ask your teachers for the correct answers.

1. Where does the story take place?
   A. Stratford (England)
   B. Verona (Italy)
   C. Paris (France)

2. What is Romeo's family name?
   A. Montague
   B. Capulet
   C. Shakespeare

3. Where does Romeo first see Juliet?
   A. At a party
   B. In the street
   C. On her balcony

4. Who helps Romeo and Juliet get married in secret?
   A. Tybalt
   B. Friar Lawrence
   C. Mercutio

5. Who is Tybalt?
   A. Romeo's best friend
   B. Juliet's brother
   C. Juliet's cousin

6. Who does Tybalt kill?
   A. Mercutio
   B. Friar Lawrence
   C. Romeo

7. Why is Romeo banished from Verona?
   A. His family discover he is married to Juliet
   B. He kills Tybalt
   C. He has to fight abroad

8. How does Juliet avoid marrying Paris?
   A. She runs away
   B. She hides in a church
   C. She takes a drug so she will sleep for forty two hours

9. What news does Romeo hear?
   A. News from Friar Lawrence about Juliet's plan
   B. Juliet has married Paris
   C. Juliet is dead

10. Who does Romeo meet at Juliet's tomb?
   A. Friar Lawrence
   B. Paris
   C. Prince Capulet

11. What does Romeo do next?
   A. Drinks his poison
   B. Tries to wake up Juliet
   C. Stabs himself with his sword

12. When Juliet discovers that Romeo is dead what does she do next?
   A. She stabs a Knife into her heart
   B. She has a heart attack
   C. She finds Romeo's poison and takes it herself

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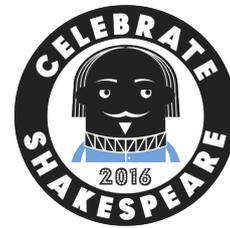
ROMEO & JULIET

Key themes: Love, fate, violence

Key characters:

- House of Escalus: Prince Escalus (Prince of Verona), Mercutio (Romeo's friend)
- **House of Capulet:** Lord Capulet, Lady Capulet, Nurse, Juliet, Tybalt (Juliet's cousin),
- **House of Montague:** Lord Montague, Lady Montague, Benvolio (Romeo's cousin), Friar John, Balthasar (Romeo's servant)
- Friar Lawrence
- Paris

SYNOPSIS

Romeo and Juliet is set in Verona, home to two families at war, the Montagues and the Capulets. Romeo Montague and his friends disguise themselves and go into a masked ball at Capulet's house. At the ball Romeo sees Juliet, Capulet's daughter for the first time. Romeo goes into the garden and confesses his love for Juliet, who stands above on her balcony. The two young lovers, with the help of Friar Lawrence, make plans to be married in secret. Tybalt, Juliet's cousin, later discovers that Romeo was at the ball, and he decides to teach Romeo a lesson. Romeo is challenged by Tybalt, but tries to avoid a fight between them as he is now married to Juliet.

Mercutio, Romeo's best friend, takes up Tybalt's challenge and is killed in the fight. In anger, Romeo kills Tybalt. Romeo is banished from Verona for his actions. The Capulets, meanwhile, want Juliet to marry Paris, a cousin to the Prince. Juliet thinks of a desperate plan to avoid her parent's wishes. She obtains a drug that will make her seem dead for forty-two hours; while she is in this state, Friar Lawrence will send word to Romeo of the situation so that he can rescue her from her tomb.

Unfortunately, the letter from Friar Lawrence arrives late Romeo instead hears news that Juliet has died. Romeo gets some poison and goes to Juliet to die at her side.

At the tomb, Romeo meets Paris, who mourns for Juliet. Romeo kills Paris, then enters the tomb and drinks his poison. Juliet wakes up only to find Romeo laying dead beside her. Heartbroken, Juliet takes the knife from Romeo's belt and kills herself.

The Montagues and Capulets finally realise what terrible things have happened and promise stop fighting each other.

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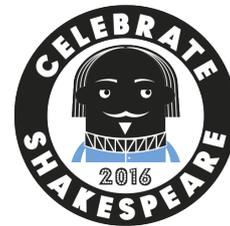
② READING TASK 2
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

Many of the characters in *Romeo and Juliet* encounter problems and have to make some difficult decisions. Look at the problems they face below. Read each one and consider what advice you would give each character.

HELP!

Last night I met the most amazing girl at a party but our families really hate each other. The problem is, it was love at first sight and now I can't stop thinking about her. It's impossible for us to be together but love her with all my heart. What should I do?

Romeo

HELP!

I've met this boy called Romeo who I'm not allowed to see. My parents want me to marry this other guy called Paris. Everyone seems to dislike Romeo because of his family the Montagues! My cousin Tybalt really hates him but I think he's amazing. I'm so confused. I hardly know him and I have to respect my family's wishes so maybe I shouldn't see him again. What would you do?

Juliet

HELP!

I've got a really huge dilemma and I don't know what to do. I helped Juliet to marry Romeo in secret but now Romeo has left Verona and cannot return. Maybe Paris, the guy her parents want her to marry, isn't so bad?
Should I tell the truth, help Juliet return to Romeo, or encourage her to marry Paris? Help!

Nurse
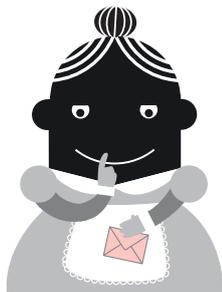
HELP!

I really need some advice. I know a young couple who are secretly in love. Her family wants her to marry another man, but I know she doesn't want to. She's asked me to help her fake her death so she can run away and get married to her lover. What should I do?

Friar Lawrence

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USEFUL LANGUAGE FOR GIVING ADVICE

Work in pairs and use the expressions in the box below to discuss what advice you would give to the characters.

> he/she should/could//has to
>
> If I were him/her, I'd....
>
> What I would do is....
>
> He/she could try..
>
> I think the best option is to....

❸ WRITING TASK

Write a problem/a series of problems down on individual pieces of paper. The problems could be real or imaginary. Hand them back to your teacher who will then issue you with one of the problems your classmates has submitted. Work in pairs and say what advice you would give the person using the language from the previous task.

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CELEBRATE SHAKESPEARE 2016

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

❶ SPEAK SHAKESPEARE!

The speech below is an extract of a key speech from the Macmillan Readers adaptation of *Romeo and Juliet*. It shows the original version and the adapted version.

ORIGINAL:

O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?
Deny thy father and refuse thy name.
Or if thou wilt not, be but sworn my love
And I'll no longer be a Capulet.

Wherefore = why
art = are
though = you
deny = (in this case) to say you do not know someone
Thy = your
refuse = to say no to
Wilt = will
But = just
Sworn = promised

ADAPTATION:

"Oh Romeo, Romeo, why does your name have to be Romeo? Tell me that Montague is not your father, and that that is not your name. Or, if you won't do that, just promise to be my love, and I shall no longer be a Capulet."

TWEET/TEXT VERSION:

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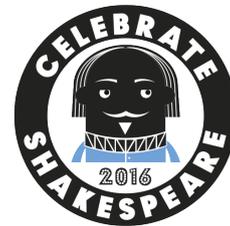
VOCABULARY-BUILDING

Romeo and Juliet is all about love and relationships. Here are just some of the idioms and expressions that Shakespeare invented that relate to love and relationships.

Can you match the expression with its correct definition?

1. The course of true love never did run smooth

2. Star-crossed lovers

3. Heart of gold

4. Wear your heart on your sleeve

5. Green-eyed monster

6. Heart of hearts

A. in one's innermost feelings

B. to be a very kind person

C. to make your feelings clear to others

D. jealousy

E. there will always be problems in any relationship

F. two people who care for each other but their circumstances don't allow them to be together

1 _____   **4** _____

2 _____   **5** _____

3 _____   **6** _____

WORD STORM

Brainstorm all the words you know relating to love with your group. Look up any expressions or words you don't know but would like to using the Macmillan Dictionary website **www.macmillandictionary.com.**

Create a poster featuring all of your words and decorate with love hearts as desired!

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