

# ROMEO AND JULIET

1º & 2º SECONDARY EDUCATION



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## SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

### Activity 1. Meet the Characters



Read and match the characters with their descriptions.

Character	Description
a) Romeo	a) A young man from the Montague family, falls in love with Juliet.
b) Juliet	b) A Capulet girl, brave and intelligent. She loves Romeo.
c) The Nurse	c) Juliet's funny and talkative friend. A kind priest who helps the lovers.
d) Friar Laurence	d) Juliet's cousin, impulsive and angry.
e) Tybalt	e) Romeo's loyal friend, always calm.
f) Benvolio	



**Now play:** In pairs, take turns describing a character without saying the name.

Example: *I'm Juliet's best friend and I talk a lot.* → *The Nurse!*



## SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**



### • Synopsis

*The story, set in the Italian city of Verona, begins with two noble families, the Montagues and the Capulets, who have been enemies for many years. One night, Romeo, a young Montague, secretly goes to a party at the Capulet house, where he meets Juliet, the daughter of his family's rival. They fall in love at first sight, without knowing who the other is. When they discover the truth, their love becomes secret and forbidden. With the help of Friar Laurence and Juliet's Nurse, they decide to marry in secret, dreaming that their love can bring peace between their families. **But... What will happen?***



### Activity 2. The Characters

#### a. Put these sentences in the correct order (1–6):

- Romeo and Juliet meet at a party.
- They fall in love, but their families are enemies.
- Romeo kills Tybalt in a fight.
- Friar Laurence helps them to marry secretly.
- Juliet drinks a sleeping potion.

#### b. Write one sentence to describe each part of the play. Use the past simple.

*Example: They met at a party and fell in love.*



## SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

### Activity 2. Who Was Shakespeare?



**Read the short text aloud.**

*William Shakespeare was born in 1564 in Stratford-upon-Avon, England. He was a playwright, actor and poet. He wrote more than 30 plays, including Hamlet, Macbeth, Othello and Romeo and Juliet. His stories talk about love, power, friendship and tragedy. He died in 1616, but his plays are still performed all around the world.*



**Ask comprehension questions:**

- Where was Shakespeare born?
- How many plays did he write?
- What topics did he write about?
- Why do people still read his works?



**Do you think Shakespeare's stories are still important today? Why or why not?**



## SESSION 1: **SYNOPSIS AND CHARACTERS**

### Activity 3. Sequence of Events



Read short fragments from the script: Act I (party); Act II (balcony); Act III (fight); Act IV (final scene)

Extract heard	Scene	Emotion
"What's that light in the window? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun."		
"Mercutio dies after the fight."		
"Your hand is like a holy place that my hand is unworthy to visit."		
"Oh, my love! My wife! Death has sucked the honey from your breath."		

**Adjectives list:** romantic – sad – angry – peaceful – tragic

**Possible answers:**



## SESSION 2: UNDERSTANDING THE PLAY

### Activity 1. Expressing Emotions



• Match the emotion to the character or scene. Write the correct letter next to each number.

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 1. Joy        | • _____ A. Romeo when he thinks Juliet is dead.                           |
| 2. Anger      | • _____ B. Juliet meeting Romeo for the first time.                       |
| 3. Sorrow     | • _____ C. Romeo and Juliet on the balcony.                               |
| 4. Love       | • _____ D. Tybalt challenging Romeo to a fight.                           |
| 5. Despair    | • _____ E. The Capulets and Montagues after the deaths of their children. |
| 6. Excitement | • _____ F. Juliet before drinking Friar Laurence's potion.                |

**2. Complete the sentences below using one of the emotions from the list above.**

- Romeo felt intense \_\_\_\_\_ when he first saw Juliet at the party.
- Tybalt's \_\_\_\_\_ led him to challenge Romeo, resulting in Mercutio's death.
- After hearing of Juliet's "death," Romeo was filled with \_\_\_\_\_.
- The balcony scene is full of \_\_\_\_\_ as Romeo and Juliet declare their feelings.



**In pairs, discuss: "Which scene in Romeo and Juliet made you feel the strongest emotion? Why?"**

SESSION 3: **THE ENDING****Activity 2. Create a Poster**

**Design a theatre poster for *Romeo and Juliet*. Include:**

- Title
- Date and place
- 3 main characters
- Slogan using *will*



## SESSION 4: Express Yourself!

### Activity 1. What did you think?



Now that you have seen the play, let's talk about the experience....

#### 1. What was your general impression of the play?

*I thought it was ...*

funny

exciting

boring

entertaining

clever

inspiring

enjoyable

*because...*

#### 2. What did you like the most?

*The best part was...*

*The funniest part was...*

*The most entertaining part was...*

*The most enjoyable part was...*



## OTHER SHOWS

### 1º & 2º Secondary Education

*Fair Play* (In English)

*A Christmas Carol* (In English)

*Le tour du monde en 80 jours* (En Français)

*El Quijote*

*Don Juan Tenorio*

*La casa de Bernarda Alba*

*Historia de una escalera*

## Romeo and Juliet

Didactic Project elaborated by  
Elena Valero Bellé



Nothing is more intense than first love... and no first love is as well-known as the one of Romeo and Juliet, which will have all of Verona entera and the audience on their feet. A vibrant stage adaptation of the Shakespeare classic, which will fill your English classes with emotion, poetry and a touch of humour. Especially adapted for their language level, this story of love and conflict between families will make your students fall in love with the theatre.

