

Romeo and Juliet  
Vocabulary Quiz

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Romeo had been brooding for days, and his father feared his melancholy would prove to be \_\_\_\_\_, leading to an evil end.  
(A) giddy  
(B) jocund  
(C) pensive  
(D) portentous  
(E) procurable
2. \_\_\_\_\_ While Romeo grieves over his unrequited love for Rosaline, Benvolio, his friend, suggests that the young man turn quickly, become \_\_\_\_\_, and pursue someone else.  
(A) baleful  
(B) giddy  
(C) jocund  
(D) pensive  
(E) portentous
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Even though the \_\_\_\_\_ and playful belittling by her nurse oftentimes annoyed her, Juliet would keep her \_\_\_\_\_ disposition by responding with no anger.  
(A) apothecary . . . portentous  
(B) carrion . . . baleful  
(C) compass . . . giddy  
(D) disparagement . . . jocund  
(E) surcease . . . pensive
4. \_\_\_\_\_ The small \_\_\_\_\_ of his “undying love” for Rosaline soon expanded beyond its limits when Romeo saw the beauty of Juliet.  
(A) apothecary  
(B) carrion  
(C) compass  
(D) demesne  
(E) presage
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Entering the party of the Capulets by \_\_\_\_\_ to be an invited guest, Romeo soon raised the suspensions and \_\_\_\_\_ of Tybalt, who was angry with the Montagues.  
(A) feigning . . . cholera  
(B) culling . . . surcease  
(C) perusing . . . demesne  
(D) retorting . . . compass  
(E) procuring . . . apothecary

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6. \_\_\_\_\_  
As he passes by the garden, Romeo sees Juliet  
A  
standing upon the balcony, whom he equates to  
B C D  
the rising sun. No error.  
E

7. \_\_\_\_\_  
After Romeo declares his love for her, Juliet  
A  
cautions the impetuous Montague that his  
B C  
declaration is to rash and to sudden. No error.  
D E

8. \_\_\_\_\_  
Friar Laurence is astonished to learn that  
Romeo had all ready forsaken his love for  
A B  
Rosaline, which prompted the holy father to  
C  
observe that young men love with their eyes,  
and not with their hearts. No error.  
D E

9. \_\_\_\_\_  
After receiving news from Romeo regarding  
A  
the marriage. The nurse returns to the  
B  
Capulets' home and teases Juliet beyond  
C  
endurance of the anxious young lady. No error.  
D E

10. \_\_\_\_\_  
While trying to stop the fight, an error in  
A  
judgment on the part of Romeo allows Tybalt  
B C  
to deliver a fatal wound to Romeo's friend.  
D  
No error.  
E

11. \_\_\_\_\_ As soon as the nurse delivered  
the good news, Juliet fain would go to  
Romeo immediately.

The word "fain" means

- (A) reluctantly.
- (B) angrily.
- (C) silently.
- (D) foolishly.
- (E) happily.

12. \_\_\_\_\_ Having been banished from his  
homeland and wife, Romeo becomes  
very despondent and seeks to procure  
both advise and comfort from Friar  
Laurence.

The infinitive "to procure" means most  
nearly in this sentence

- (A) to refuse.
- (B) to acquire.
- (C) to forget.
- (D) to repent.
- (E) to travel.

13. \_\_\_\_\_ For the Montagues and  
Capulets, the sight of the bodies of  
Romeo and Juliet was not only the  
testimony of the families' unreasonable  
enmity but the surcease of hostilities  
also.

The word "surcease" means

- (A) commencement.
- (B) recording.
- (C) pretense.
- (D) cessation.
- (E) increase.

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The one apparent shortcoming of “Romeo and Juliet” is its reliance on  
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fate. Even though fate is an indeterminate force, outcomes can be predicted if certain events happen. Particularly when laws and customs are violated. Indeed, Romeo and Juliet do not seemingly deserve to

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suffer death. One can argue that the couple does nothing to bring about the tragic events in their lives, and the cause of the events are mere

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chance and accident. The killings of Mercutio and Tybalt along with the failed delivery of the letter to Romeo set the fateful events into motion.

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As “star-crossed lovers,” Romeo and Juliet are doomed from the beginning of the play to never experience lasting happiness. Modern readers find difficulty with the notion that the lovers were destined by mere fate to find love, to suffer separation, and dying within such a short

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period of time. On the other hand, perhaps they are guilty of something

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that is worthy of death. Since disobedient children who reject sound advice are apt to behave foolish, the deaths of Romeo and Juliet are

**20**

the result of their willful defiance of parental wishes and guidance.

14. A. NO CHANGE  
B. ‘Romeo and Juliet’  
C. *Romeo and Juliet*  
D. Romeo and Juliet

15. A. NO CHANGE  
B. run-on sentence  
C. misplaced modifier  
D. fragment

16. A. NO CHANGE  
B. is merely  
C. are merely  
D. were mere

17. A. NO CHANGE  
B. setting  
C. to set  
D. sets

18. A. NO CHANGE  
B. died  
C. to die  
D. die

19. A. NO CHANGE  
B. Romeo and Juliet  
C. they’re  
D. he and she

20. A. NO CHANGE  
B. foolishness  
C. foolhardy  
D. foolishly