

# Romeo and Juliet activities



## THEATRICAL VOCABULARY

Escena: Scene

Escenario: Stage

Guión: Script

Actor: Actor

Actriz: Actress

Personaje: Character

Papel: Role

Ensayo: Rehearsal

Solista: Soloist

Protagonista: Main character

Actor secundario: Secondary actor / role

Coro: Choir, Chorus

Director de orquesta: Conductor

Compositor: Composer

Obra de teatro: Play

Función: Performance

Dramaturgo: Playwright

Comedia: Comedy

Tragedia: Tragedy

Reservar: Booking

Con antelación: in advance

Comprar en el momento: to buy on the night

Descuento: Discount

Programa de mano: Programme

Bono: Voucher

Reembolso: Refund

Acomodador: Usherette

Taquilla: Ticket office

Asiento centrado: Seat in the middle

Asiento lateral: Seat off to the side

No visibilidad: No visibility

Pasillo: Corridor

Patio de butacas: Stalls

Palco: Circle

Gallinero: the gods

Horario: Timetable

Descanso: Interval

Guionista: Script writer

Decorado: Scenery

Crítica: Review

Aplauso: (Round of) applause

Camerino: Dressing room, 'green room'

Vestuario: Costumes

Telón: Curtain

Focos: Lights / Lighting

Bambalinas: Wings

Mesa de sonido: Sound desk

Mesa de luces: Lighting desk

Foso de orquesta: Orchestra pit

# WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

STRATFORD-upon-AVON, ENGLAND

23 April 1564 - 23 April 1616

## MAIN PLAYS:



*Othello*



*King Lear*



*Macbeth*



*Hamlet*



*Romeo and Juliet*



*Antony and Cleopatra*



*Comedy of Errors*



*Merchant of Venice*



*Midsummer Night's Dream*



*As You Like it*



*Titus Andronicus*



*Coriolanus*



William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare

William Shakespeare was an English poet, playwright, and actor, widely regarded as the greatest writer in the English language and the world's greatest dramatist. He is often called England's national poet and the "Bard of Avon".

**Lee en español y trata de explicar en inglés y en voz alta algunas de las cosas que recuerdes.**

### **1. Se casó con una mujer embarazada bastante mayor que él.**

A los 18 años, Shakespeare se casó con Anne Hathaway, ocho años mayor que él y a la que había embarazado. Además de esa primera niña (Susanna), tuvieron luego mellizos: otra niña (Judith) y un niño llamado curiosamente Hamnet. Una de las pocas cosas que se sabe de la relación entre Shakespeare y Hathaway es que acostumbraban a vivir separados.

### **2. No existe ningún descendiente suyo.**

Hamnet murió de niño en 1596 y sólo una de sus hijas le dio una nieta, que murió sin descendencia en 1670. En cambio, Shakespeare tenía siete hermanos.

### **3. Su tumba está maldita.**

Shakespeare está enterrado en la Holy Trinity Church de Stratford-upon-Avon, bajo un epitafio que dice: "Buen amigo, por Jesús, abstente de cavar en el polvo aquí encerrado. Bendito sea el hombre que respete estas piedras y maldito el que remueva mis huesos". Además, una leyenda afirma que en su tumba se hallan las obras inéditas que se sabe que escribió pero que no han llegado a nuestros días.

### **4. Su obra más corta es *La comedia de las equivocaciones*.**

Se representa en menos de hora y media, mientras que *Hamlet*, su obra más larga, requiere cuatro horas.

### **5. Todos sus papeles femeninos están escritos para hombres.**

Esto se debe a que en aquella época era ilegal que las mujeres actuaran en obras de teatro. Esta sequía de actrices se mantendría hasta el periodo de la Restauración.

## 6. No se sabe cuál es la forma correcta de escribir su apellido.

En ninguna de las seis firmas que se conservan deletreó Shakespeare su propio apellido como lo hacemos hoy, pues escribió *Shakespe*, *Shakspe*, *Shakspere* y *Shakespear*.

## 7. Inventó un total de 1.700 palabras y expresiones.

O, por lo menos, fue el primero en escribirlas en inglés. Entre ellas se encuentran vocablos de uso tan común como *amazement* (asombro), *arrogance* (arrogancia), *assassination* (asesinato), *bloody* (sangriento), *generous* (generoso), *road* (camino) y *suspicious* (sospechoso). También aparecieron por vez primera en *El mercader de Venecia* la expresión “No es oro todo lo que reluce” y el nombre Jessica.

## 8. Se cree que sus padres e hijos eran analfabetos.

Shakespeare asistió a una pequeña escuela local, donde aprendió a leer y escribir, además de latín. Sin embargo, esto no era costumbre en aquella época, y los indicios apuntan a que su familia, de origen humilde, era analfabeta por lo menos en gran parte.

## 9. Macbeth es la obra más representada del mundo.

Se calcula que tienen lugar un promedio de seis actuaciones diarias; es decir, el equivalente a una representación cada cuatro horas en alguna parte del mundo.

## 10. Nadie sabe qué hizo entre 1585 y 1592.

No hay registros sobre Shakespeare desde el bautismo de los mellizos hasta que empezó a triunfar en Londres. La mayoría sugiere que estudió Derecho, que viajó por la Europa continental, que fue profesor de colegio o que se unió a una compañía de teatro a su paso por Stratford.

## 11. Su profesión era en realidad la de actor.

Así figura en documentos recogidos entre 1592 y 1603. Se sabe que actuó en una obra de Ben Jonson y que acostumbraba a hacerlo en las suyas. Eso sí, dado que era un hombre atareado, escogía papeles secundarios como el de fantasma en *Hamlet* y el de Adam en *Como gustéis*.

## 12. Muchas películas están basadas en obras de Shakespeare.

Los ejemplos más conocidos son *West Side Story* (*Romeo y Julieta*), *El Rey León* (*Hamlet*) y *Ran* (*El Rey Lear*), una de las obras cumbre del japonés Akira Kurosawa.

## 13. Algunos investigadores afirman que no escribió sus obras.

Hay quien dice que muchas las escribió gente a la que contrataba, otros dicen que fue un pseudónimo utilizado por algún otro escritor como Francis Bacon e incluso hay quien sostiene que nunca existió tal persona, sino que se trata de una figura ficticia bajo la que se aglutinaron distintos escritores. En cualquier caso, las pruebas de que existió y escribió las obras que se le atribuyen son más sólidas que dichas teorías.

## 14. Repartió su herencia de forma extraña.

Shakespeare hizo mucho dinero al ejercer también de empresario en el mundo del teatro, y decidió cederle la mayor parte de su patrimonio a su hija Susanna y una parte muy pequeña a su hija Judith, mientras que su mujer tuvo que conformarse con su “segunda mejor cama”. Las razones por las que lo pudo haber hecho son sólo especulaciones.

# 15. Más de 60 personajes mueren en sus tragedias.

En este gráfico (en inglés) podéis ver lo retorcidos que podían llegar a ser los desenlaces de algunos personajes shakesperianos

## Shakespeare's Tragedies

Everybody Dies.

Original Concept  
by Cam Magee

Design by  
Caitlin S Griffin

### Romeo and Juliet



Mercutio is  
Stabbed



Tybalt is  
Stabbed



Paris is  
Stabbed



Romeo  
Poisons Himself



Juliet  
Stabs Herself



and Lady Montague dies  
of a Broken Heart

### Hamlet



Hamlet is  
Stabbed  
and Poisoned



Claudius is  
Stabbed  
and Poisoned



Laertes is  
Stabbed  
and Poisoned



Polonius is  
Stabbed through  
a curtain



Gertrude is  
Poisoned



Rosencrantz and  
Guildenstern are  
Beheaded



and Ophelia  
Drowns

### Othello



Emilia is  
Stabbed



Roderigo is  
Stabbed



Othello  
Stabs Himself



and Desdemona is  
Smothered by a Pillow



# Macbeth



Duncan is Stabbed    Duncan's Guards are Stabbed    Banquo is Stabbed    the MacDuff Family is Stabbed    Young Siward is Stabbed    Macbeth is Beheaded    and Lady Macbeth dies from Lack of Sleep

# Antony and Cleopatra



Enobarbus dies of Shame    Antony Stabs Himself    Charmian Poisons Herself    Iras Drops Dead    and Cleopatra dies from a Snakebite

# Julius Caesar



Julius Caesar is Stabbed    Brutus Stabs Himself    Cassius Stabs Himself    Cinna the Poet is Torn Apart by the Mob    and Portia Eats Hot Coals

# King Lear



The Fool Disappears    Gloucester is Blinded    Cornwall is Stabbed    Oswald is Stabbed    Goneril Stabs Herself and Poisons her sister, Regan    Edmund is Stabbed    Cordelia is Hanged    and Lear dies of Grief

# Titus Andronicus



Alarbus's Arms and Legs are Cut Off, then he is Thrown into a Fire    Chiron and Demetrius are Stabbed then Baked into a Pie which Titus feeds to Tamora    Tamora dies of Indigestion    Lavinia's Hands and Tongue are Cut Off then she is Stabbed    The Nurse is Stabbed



Mutius is Stabbed    Bassanius is Stabbed    Martius and Quintus are Beheaded    The Clown is Hanged    Saturninus is Stabbed    Titus is Stabbed    and Aaron is Buried to his Neck and Starves

# Coriolanus



Coriolanus is Cut to Pieces

# and Timon of Athens



Just throws Himself Away.

# Bonus: The Winter's Tale



Antigonus Exits, Pursued by a Bear

# Romeo and Juliet

**Romeo and Juliet summary.** An age-old vendetta between two powerful families erupts into bloodshed. A group of masked Montagues risk further conflict by gate crashing a Capulet party. A young lovesick **Romeo** Montague falls instantly in love with **Juliet** Capulet, who is due to marry her father's choice, the County Paris

## PLOT

# ♥♥ Romeo and Juliet

Here's how the lovers go down:



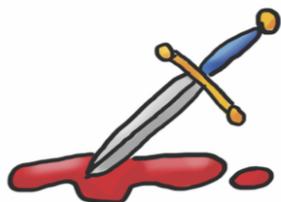
- 1 Duel**  
The Montagues and Capulets have a duel. At the end, Verona's Prince says, "the next to fight will die."



- 2 Masquerade Ball**  
Romeo wants to crash the Capulet dance to get with Rosaline but meets someone else....



- 3 Marriage**  
Romeo falls for Juliet and they arrange a secret wedding.



- 4 Fight**  
Tybalt and Mercutio fight it out. Romeo gets in the middle and kills Tybalt.



- 5 Sadness**  
Juliet is sad that Romeo has killed her cousin. To make her happy, dad says she should get with Paris.



- 6 Sleeping Potion**  
To avoid marrying Paris, Juliet takes a sleeping potion so everyone will think she's dead.



- 7 Death and more Death**  
Romeo finds Juliet and thinking she's dead, kills himself. Juliet then wakes to find Romeo's dead body and does the same.

## MEET THE CAST

### The Montagues

Benvolio Montague   Romeo Montague   Lord Montague   Lady Montague   Mercutio



### The Capulets

Tybalt Capulet   Juliet Capulet   Lord Capulet   Lady Capulet   The nurse



# Romeo and Juliet

## Character Analysis

Montague  
(less wealthy)  
Passionate  
"Petrarchan Lover"  
Angsty  
Changeable  
Honor-driven  
Young  
(age not specified)



Capulet  
(very wealthy)  
Witty  
Intelligent  
Determined  
Vulnerable  
Sexually forward  
Thirteen (!!!)

## MAIN CHARACTERS

Well, that escalated quickly.

*Juliet*

**Affiliation:** Capulet, leading lady

**Personality:** Go-getter, but matures too quickly

Hey, I just met you, and this is crazy. But let's get hitched, then kick the bucket, baby.

*Romeo*

**Affiliation:** The Montagues' main man

**Personality:** Chooses poetry over fightin' words, kind of emo

I eat Capulets for breakfast.

*Mercutio*

**Affiliation:** Montague, Romeo's best bro

**Personality:** Gets to the point, hasty with his sword

I eat Montagues for breakfast.

*Tybalt*

**Affiliation:** Capulet, Juliet's cousin

**Personality:** Macho and aggressive anti-Montague

Takin' my chill pills and keepin' up with the Capulets and Montagues.

*Benvolio*

**Affiliation:** Montague, Romeo's cousin

**Personality:** Nice guy, but kind of a doormat (aw)

Juliet said "k" when I proposed. So pumped she's down.

*Paris*

**Affiliation:** Dumped by a Capulet

**Personality:** Lacking in this department

*Nurse*

**Affiliation:** Capulet, Juliet's nurse

**Personality:** Practical, but loves a dirty joke

*Friar Laurence*

**Affiliation:** Neutral party

**Personality:** Too optimistic, which kind of leads to tragedy

*Lord Capulet*

**Affiliation:** Capulet, Juliet's dad

**Personality:** Tyrannical, violent, possessive

# ♥ Romeo and Juliet

## Symbols of *Romeo and Juliet*

**Thumb Biting**  
Flipping the bird... just as absurd as the feuding families.

**Night**  
Its darkness protects and hides the secret lovers. Bad things go down in the day.

**Plants and Poison**  
Like people, they can be both good and bad.

**Death**  
Seen everywhere before it actually happens. Seen in a sleeping Juliet, a climbing Romeo, and even a poison salesman.

**Sex and Death**  
*Romeo and Juliet* combines physical death and sexual climax. Intercourse leads to life, but not in this play.

## Deeper analysis

### Romeo

Literature's greatest lover or Literature's greatest player? Sure, his name has practically become synonymous with true love...

### Juliet

Poor Juliet. Not only does she end up dead, she doesn't get nearly the love that Romeo does. (Have you ever heard some girl described as "such a Juliet"...

### Rosaline

Rosaline is the gorgeous and aloof woman Romeo crushes on until he meets the love of his life, Juliet. But, um, don't get excited, because we never see her, she has no speaking part, and she isn't...

## Mercutio

Mercutio is Romeo's sword-fight loving BFF, and you probably won't be surprised to find out that his name sounds a lot like the word "mercurial."

## Benvolio Montague

Benvolio, whose name literally means "good will," is a classic nice guy: stuck playing the straight man to Mercutio and the non-romantic-idiot to Rome...

## Tybalt Capulet

Tybalt is Juliet's cousin, i.e. a Capulet. After he kills Romeo's BFF, Mercutio, in a street brawl, Romeo mortally stabs him, which causes Romeo to be...

## The Nurse

Even a tragedy needs some comic relief, and who better than Juliet's bawdy, lower-class nurse? It's comic gold: she's a lower-class woman, so that's a...

## Friar Laurence

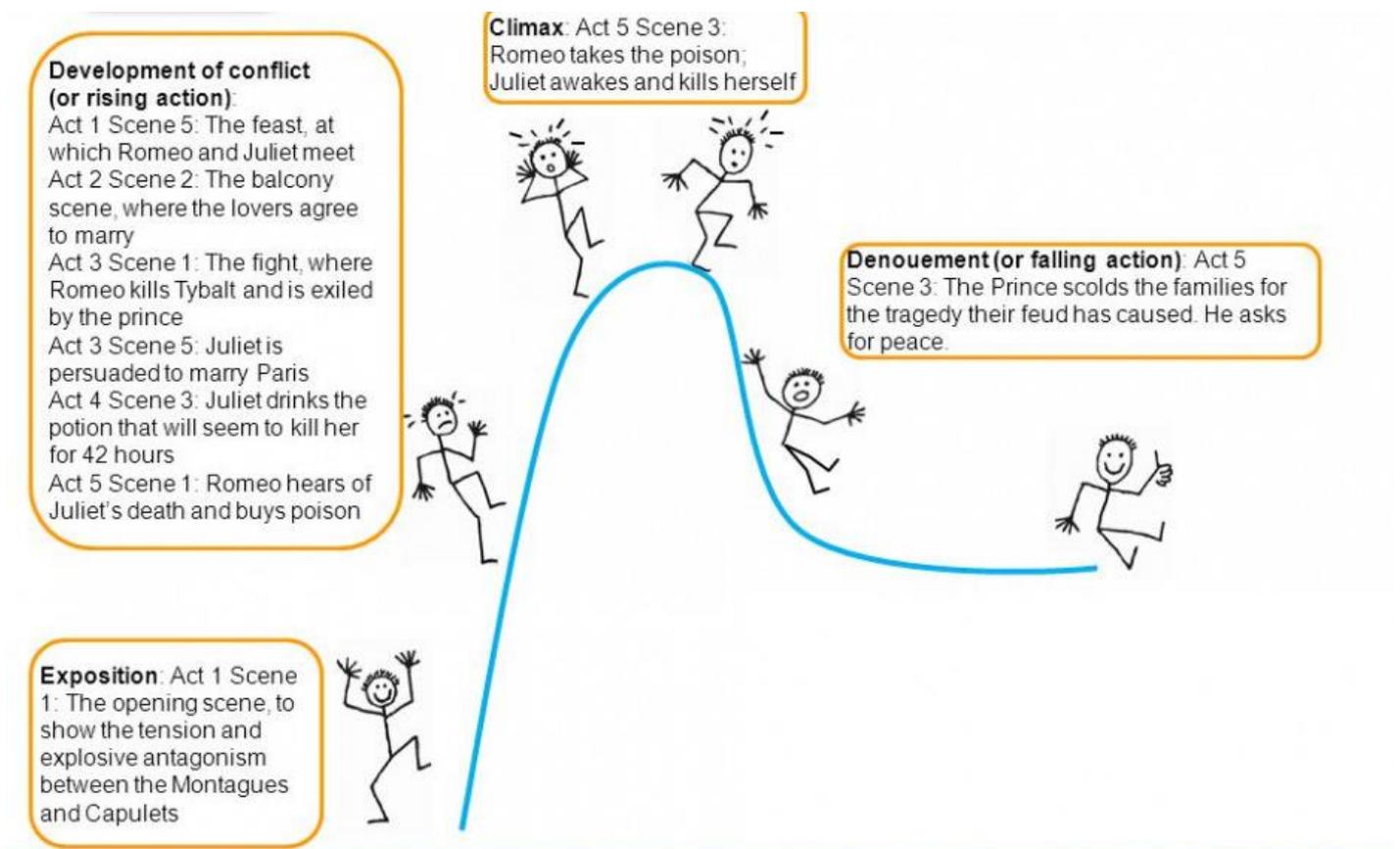
A mentor to both Romeo and Juliet, Friar Laurence constantly advises them to act with more caution and moderation, even though he doesn't wait too long...

## Lord Capulet

Lord Capulet is Juliet's daddy. At first, he seems like a pretty good dad. When Paris comes sniffing around for thirteen-year-old Jul...

## Paris

All you have to do to see why Paris (the guy who wears down Juliet's dad until he agrees to let him marry Juliet) is such a good foil for Romeo...



# Capulet's

# Montague's

Lord Capulet

Lady Capulet

Lord Montague

Lady Montague

Liable, Prudent, Commanding, and isn't very aware of his daughters feelings.

Relys on the nurse to do everything because she is ineffectul. She wants Juliet to marry Paris.

Concerned father, strong willed, he's the leader of the mantague's, strong headed.

Montague's wife, cares greatly for her son Romeo.

Married

Married

Daughter  
**Juliet**

Son  
**Romeo**

Beautiful, confidant, she puts all of her trust and love into Romeo.



Handsome, passionate, sensitive, he loves Juliet.

Friend

Cousin

Friend

Cousin

nurse

Tybalt

Mercutio

Benvolio

Faithful, raised and takes care of Juliet

Aggressive, violent, prideful and quick to draw his sword.

Close friend to Romeo, extraordinary, he flows with imagination.

Thoughtful, he makes a genuine effort to stop vilence.

Friend

Friend

Friend

Friend

Friend

Cousin

Friend

Friend

Paris

The Prince

Friar

Wants to marry Juliet, related to the prince.

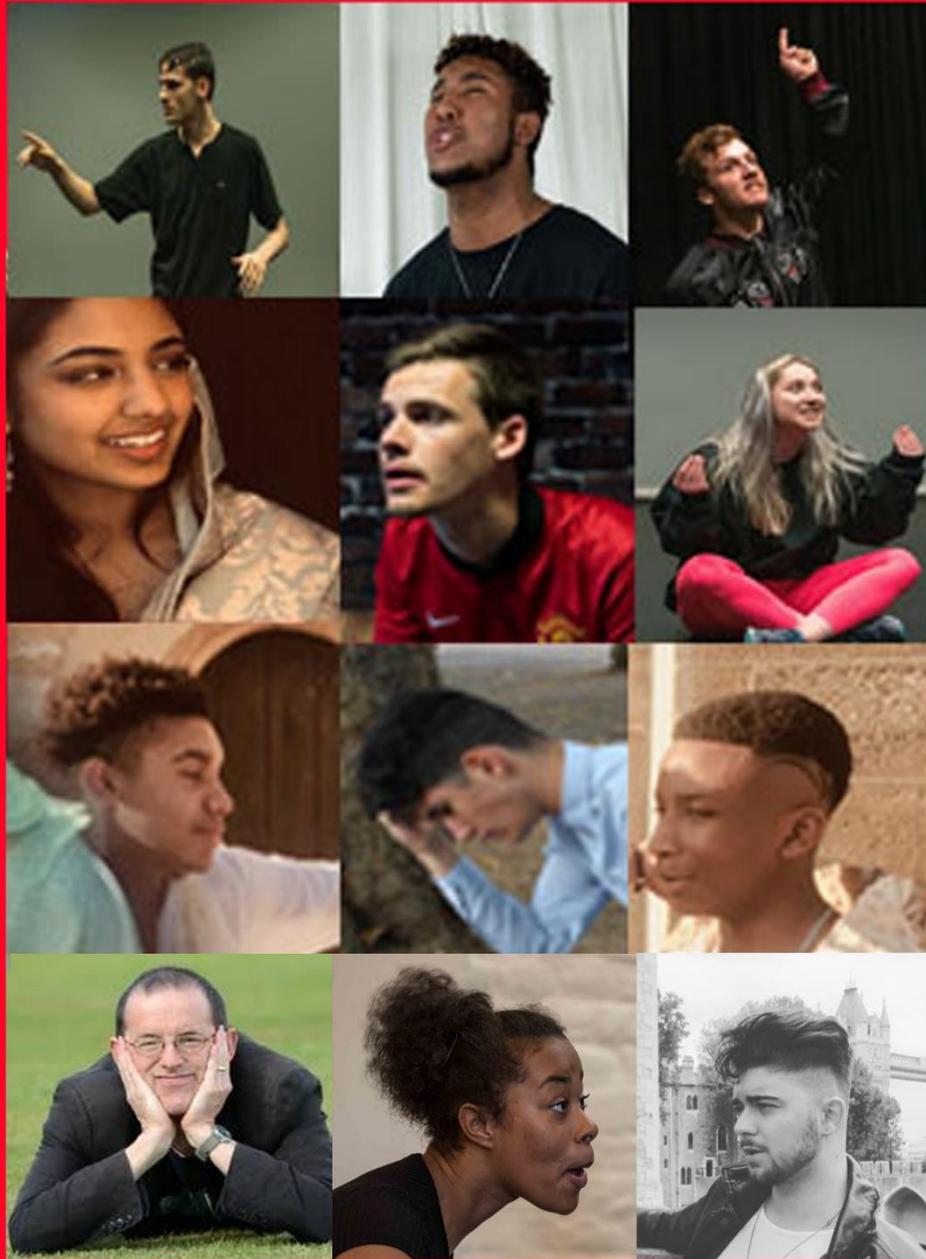
Concerned about the peace, he rules Verona. He's related to Mercutio and Paris.

He's a friend to both Romeo and Juliet.

Cousin

Friend

# OUR CAST



ALISHA DENTON

SIMION GAY

HARRY WITTAKER

DAN JAMES

AIDAN HUXFORD

SAMUEL GREENWOOD

MORGAN SKYERS

DIYA BECHOO

ROBIN BURR

HELEN SCOT

# Compare the script in Spanish and English

## TRANSLATION

### ESCENA I / ACTO I

**Paris** (A Tybalt)

Ya está desnuda mi arma.

Provócalos, te guardaré las espaldas.

**Tybalt**

¿Cómo? Volviendo tu espalda para echarte a correr.

**Paris**

No temas.

**Tybalt** (*riendo*)

¿Temerte yo?

**Paris**

Que empiecen ellos y así tenemos la ley de nuestra parte.

Frunciré el ceño al pasar y que lo tomen como quieran.

**Tybalt**

No, mejor me acercaré y les sacaré los dedos.

(*Les hace el mal gesto*)

**Mercuzio**

¿Nos sacas los dedos? Amigo...

**Tybalt**

No saco los dedos por vosotros.

Solo saco los dedos (se los vuelve a enseñar)

**Benvolio**

¿Buscas pelea?

**Paris**

¿Pelea? ¡No! Amigo...

**Mercuzio**

Porque si buscáis pelea, estoy a vuestras órdenes.

**Paris**

Pero no...mejor...

**Tybalt**

Desenvainad si sois hombres

(A Paris) Acuérdate de tu prestigioso maestro.

**Benvolio**

Separaos, Imbéciles.

No sabéis lo que estás haciendo.

**Tybalt**

Vuélvete Benvolio y contempla tu muerte

### SCENE I /ACT I

**Paris** (*to Tybalt*)

My naked weapon is out.

Provoke them, I will guard your back.

**Tybalt**

How? Turning your back to be ready to run?

**Paris**

Don't be afraid

**Tybalt** (*laughing*)

Me, afraid?

**Paris**

Let them start it and in that way we'll have the law on our side.

I will frown as I pass them and let them take that as they wish.

**Tybalt**

No, better I will get close and wave two fingers at them.

(*He makes the bad gesture to them*)

**Mercutio**

Are you waving two fingers at us? Friend...

**Tybalt**

No, I wasn't waving two fingers at you.

I was just waving my fingers (he does it again)

**Benvolio**

Are you looking for a fight?

**Paris**

A fight? No! Friend...

**Mercutio**

Because if you're looking for a fight we're ready for you.

**Paris**

But no...better...

**Tybalt**

Draw your swords if you are men.

(*To Paris*) Remember your prestigious teacher.

**Benvolio**

Separate, fools.

You don't know what you are doing

**Tybalt**

Turn around **Benvolio** and contemplate your death.

## The First Kiss

[https://youtu.be/yCIVlc\\_niac](https://youtu.be/yCIVlc_niac)



## The First Love

### Exercise:

### Booking tickets for the ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

CON LA SIGUIENTE INFORMACIÓN TRATA DE RESPONDER A LAS PREGUNTAS QUE SE INDICAN AL FINAL.

Set in a world very like our own, this *Romeo and Juliet* is about a generation of young people born into violence and ripped apart by the bitter divisions of their parents.

What if your first true love was someone you'd been told to hate? Shakespeare's most famous story explodes with intense passion and an irresistible desire for change but leads all too quickly to devastating consequences.

RSC Deputy Artistic Director Erica Whyman is back at the Barbican following her acclaimed production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream: A Play for the Nation* in 2016. Bally Gill and Karen Fishwick are the star-crossed lovers, with the professional cast joined by young people from RSC Associate Schools in London who will perform as part of the chorus.

**Duration:** 2 hours 43 mins/including an interval

**Wed 28 Nov**

Semi-integrated BSL performance  
BSL Interpreter: Clare Edwards. Watch the [BSL synopsis here](#).  
[BSL Backstage Tour](#)

**Wed 28 Nov**

Post-show talk (BSL-interpreted)  
Free to ticket holders

**Sat 15 Dec, 1.30pm**

Audio-described and captioned performance  
Described by Julia Grundy and Carolyn Smith and captioned by Roz Chalmers

## Creative team

Erica Whyman - **Direction**  
Tom Piper - **Design**  
Charles Balfour - **Lighting**  
Sophie Cotton - **Music**  
Jeremy Dunn - **Sound**  
Ayse Tashkiran - **Movement**  
Kate Waters - **Fights**

## Reviews

*‘Youthful and energetic interpretation of Shakespeare's tragedy’*

Michael Davies, *WhatsOnStage*

*‘The tale of star-crossed lovers is brought into dazzlingly sharp relief’*  
*Evening Standard*

*‘Fresh and holds your attention’*  
Natasha Tripney, *The Stage*

## Barbican Theatre

### Location

The Barbican Theatre is located within the main Barbican building.

### Address

Barbican Centre  
Silk Street, London  
EC2Y 8DS

### Public transport

The Barbican is widely accessible by bus, tube, train and by foot or bicycle.

## QUESTIONS:

1. Which words in the description tell us that *R&J* is a negative, unhappy play? (for example, 'ripped apart' ...)

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2. Who are helping the professional actors in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*?

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3. How long does the play last? \_\_\_\_\_ hours \_\_\_\_\_ minutes

4. Which of these jobs would you prefer to do? Why?

Direction  
Design  
Lighting  
Music  
Sound  
Movement  
Fights

I would like to be in charge of \_\_\_\_\_ because

---

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Can you translate these two reviews?

**Vocabulario:**      **star-crossed = *malhadado, desventurado***

*A youthful and energetic interpretation of Shakespeare's tragedy =*

Una interpretación

---

*Fresh and holds your attention =*

---

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SxZdwwY4yQs&feature=share>



# SEE YOU SOON

**PROMO VIDEO: BEDFORD YOUNG THEATRE**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/18KBhGDVUKocT\\_hqRa\\_dOrsQrrVVqA3p?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/mobile/folders/18KBhGDVUKocT_hqRa_dOrsQrrVVqA3p?usp=sharing)

Performance in collaboration with:



University of  
Bedfordshire