Name: Date:

Act III

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| **Directions:** Answer the following questions as you read through Act III of *Romeo & Juliet*. Answer in complete sentences on a separate sheet of white lined paper; provide page numbers and quotes where noted to support your responses. |

Scene i:

1. Why do you think Tybalt approaches Mercutio and Benvolio and wants a “word” with one of them?
2. Mercutio tries to provoke Tybalt to fight. Why doesn’t Tybalt want to fight him?
3. After Tybalt insults Romeo, Romeo responds near the bottom of page 44 that starts with *Tybalt, the reason…*. What is the reason Romeo has for ignoring his insult?
4. Look at Romeo’s lines that span pages 44 and 45. Explain the meaning of the lines and the dramatic irony of the situation.
5. Why does Romeo’s answer to Tybalt’s insults upset Mercutio? What does he think Romeo is doing?
6. Even when he is dying, Mercutio continues to joke and to make puns. Explain the pun he makes at the bottom of page 45.
7. Explain Mercutio’s lines: *A plague O’ both your houses! They have made worm’s meat of me.*
8. What does Romeo mean when he says: *Alive in triumph—and Mercutio slain! Away to heaven, respective lenity, and fire-eyed fury be my conduct now. Now, Tybalt, take the “villain” back again…*
9. After Mercutio’s death, why does Romeo decide to kill Tybalt instead of accepting Mercutio’s death as an unfortunate accident?
10. What does Romeo mean when he calls himself “fortune’s fool?”
11. What reasoning does Lady Capulet use in begging the Prince to seek vengeance for Tybalt’s death?
12. What is Lord Montague’s reasoning in his attempt to persuade the Prince not to kill Romeo for killing Tybalt?
13. What is the Prince’s decree, and what are the reasons he gives for making it?

Scene ii

1. The Nurse confuses Juliet as she tells Juliet of the fight. What misconception does Juliet make?
2. When Juliet receives news of Tybalt’s death, what is her first reaction?
3. When the Nurse agrees with Juliet, Juliet has a different reaction to Romeo’s killing of Tybalt. Explain.
4. How does the scene end?

Scene iii

1. What is Romeo’s reaction when he learns that he has been banished?
2. From the beginning of the play, Romeo acts impulsively. In what way is he still impulsive in this scene?
3. Friar Laurence tells Romeo to count his blessings. What are they?
4. Explain Friar Laurence’s plan.

Scene v

1. Lady Capulet misunderstands Juliet’s sadness, and Juliet does not want her to know what has happened between her and Romeo. What does Juliet say about Tybalt and Romeo to keep the truth from her mother?
2. What is Juliet’s response when she is told the news that she is to marry Paris? How has she changed since Act I?
3. What is Lady Capulet’s reaction to Juliet’s response?
4. What is Lord Capulet’s response to Juliet’s refusal to marry Paris?
5. What does the Nurse advise Juliet to do? What is her reasoning?
6. After the Nurse leaves and Juliet is alone, what does Juliet decide to do?