**ACT 2 *Romeo and Juliet* Study Guide**

Please answer the following questions in **complete sentences** and on a **separate sheet** of paper. You may type your answers if you wish. Please use MLA format.

1. What is the main point of Juliet’s “What’s in a name” speech?

2. What are Romeo and Juliet’s plan for the following day?

3. What is the relationship that Friar Lawrence sees between plants and people?

4. Why does Friar Lawrence agree to marry Romeo and Juliet?

5. In Act 2 Mercutio uses puns to do what?

6. What is the main thing the Nurse wants from Romeo?

7. What does Juliet worry about while she waits for the Nurse to return?

8. What is the main reason the chorus suggests that Romeo has fallen in love with Juliet?

9. What is the reason Benvolio believes that Romeo jumped over the Capulet’s wall?

10. What does Romeo compare Juliet to when he first sees her on the balcony?

11. Why is Friar Lawrence surprised to hear that Romeo is in love with Juliet?

12. Romeo says that Mercutio “will speak more in a minute than he will stand to in a month” What does this mean about Mercutio?

13. Why does Mercutio make fun of Romeo after they leave the party? Explain the **irony** in this incident. (Contrast between appearance and reality; **dramatic irony**—the reader knows something that a character does not know) in this incident.

14. How does Romeo find out that Juliet shares his feelings? What does Juliet seem most concerned about in the balcony scene?

15. How do Juliet and Romeo carry out their plan to marry? Why do they want to act so quickly?

16. What is your opinion of the way Mercutio treats the Nurse? Have you ever witnessed a teenage making fun of an older person? Do you think the reason for the teasing was the same as Mercutio? Explain.

17. A **pun** is a humorous play on different meanings of a word or on words that sound alike but have different meanings. Shakespeare includes many puns in *Romeo and Juliet*. For example, when Benvolio says that Romeo will answer Tybalt’s challenge in scene 4, Mercutio responds, “Any man that can write may answer a letter.” His pun plays on the two meanings of *answer*: “accept a challenge to a duel” and “reply in writing.”

a. Find a pun in act 2 scene 4 of *Romeo and Juliet* that plays on different meanings of a word.

b. Find a pun in act 1, scene 1, that plays on words that sound alike but have different meanings.