

Year 10 English

Romeo & Juliet Essay Task

This essay task is the final assessment task for our study of Shakespeare's play, *Romeo and Juliet*. This is your chance to show your knowledge of the text in an essay format.

Craft a response to the following:

Describe how a key relationship was driven by conflict in the text.

Preparation

- Decide on the key relationship you will examine and the conflict that plays a key part in its development
- Brainstorm some ideas about how this relationship was driven by conflict – think about how the relationship developed over the course of the play and some key moments.
- Which type of conflict drove the relationship in terms of decision making, timing, actions and consequences?
- List some key moments from the play that will support your ideas and the relationship moments you have chosen
- Find quotes from those moments that are suitable for supporting your planned explanation
- Plan the structure of your essay:
 - An introduction, at least 3 body paragraphs and a conclusion
 - Effective paragraphing – one key idea per paragraph
 - Consider the best order for your paragraphs, do you move chronologically or is there another way that best helps you build your argument

The Essay

Size – Your final piece of writing should be between 700 – 900 words in length. This will help you to keep the writing focused.

Conditions - We will be spending 5 periods of class time to construct the essay. You may use any notes from our study of the play and you may seek feedback from your teacher during the task.

Scope – Your proficiency with spelling, grammar and punctuation will help with clear and effective communication of your argument, as will conforming to a clear structure.

Advice – You are advised to refer to any notes and material you have been exposed to during our study of *Romeo and Juliet*.

You are advised to seek feedback in the early stages of writing to ensure that you are on the right track.

Structure Reminders

Overall Structure

Your essay should be like a burger. It has a top bun (the introduction), fillings in the middle (the main paragraphs) and a bottom bun (the conclusion).

Paragraph Structure

Read the explanation below and revisit notes from class to remind you of how to structure a S.E.X.Y. paragraph.

Statement: This is the sentence that should inform the reader of the overall idea of your paragraph.

Explanation: Once you have stated in your statement what your paragraph is about, you need to add some context to it. You need to expand your statement. Ask yourself, “why did I make that statement?” ...to kick start your explanation.

eXample: What evidence is there that your statement is accurate? This is where you will use quotations to justify your statement. You also need to explain HOW your selected quotation supports your explanation.

Your opinion(ideas): This is your ‘big picture’ moment. What other relevant information do you need to discuss? This might include the relevant social or historical context. You should always discuss how this information enhances our understanding of the text and the author’s purpose. Why did they write this? What were they trying to tell people? What message were they attempting to get across? Does this relate to you or the wider world?