Romeo & Juliet Act 2 Study Guide

Act 2 scene 1+2:

1. What problems are expected for both Romeo & Juliet to encounter concerning their love?
2. Romeo slips away from his friends and rushes to see Juliet after their emotional kiss. As the scene opens, Romeo enters and says: “He jests at scars that never felt a wound.” What is Romeo referring to Romeo’s soliloquies? What does this statement suggest?
3. Is Juliet aware that Romeo is listening to her soliloquy? What does her famous lines “ Oh Romeo, Romeo! Wherfore art thou Romeo?
4. Juliet makes a secret vow to Romeo; what is it? What is the significance of this quote in relation to a major theme of the play?
5. What is Romeo’s response when Juliet mentions that he is risking death by being there with her?
6. “I have night’s cloak to hide me form their eyes…” What does night symbolize? How is this line supposed to convince Juliet that he is safe when attempting to visit her?
7. What concern does Juliet reveal to herself in private to prove that she is knowledgeable about men?
8. Juliet states, “swear by the gracious self, Which is the god of my idolatry,… “ What is she trying to communicate to Romeo?
9. Juliet is apprehensive about her relationship with Romeo suddenly developing so quickly. Find quotes that prove this point.
10. Romeo states,” I am afeard, Being in this is but a dream, too flattering-sweet to be substantial.” Explain Romeo’s feelings or concerns.
11. When Juliet responds to Romeo’s marriage proposal, how does she reply?
12. What are Romeo’s lines of departure when he is agonizing that the night will soon be over (these are famous lines I asked you to recite)?

Act 2 scene 3

1. Read Friar Lawrence’s speech and exclaims that Romeo has been up all night with Rosaline. What is his reaction when he finds out that he was with Juliet Capulet?
2. Give an example of how the Friar makes fun of Romeo?
3. Why does the Friar agree to help Romeo and then agree to help the couple marry?

Act 2 scene 4

1. Both Mercutio and Benvolio still believe that Romeo is still obsessed with Rosalin, at the beginning of this scene. List the allusions that Mercutio lists. Research their true meaning and explain their significance to the scene.
2. Mercutio comments on a change he sees in Romeo. Which one does he mention?
3. How does Romeo respond to the Nurse and Peter arriving ?
4. The nurse has several doubts about Romeo and his intentions. Express those doubts and how does Romeo respond to them?
5. What is the message that the Romeo gives to the Nurse for Juliet?
6. What does the “man” bring beyond the abbey-wall?

Act 2 scene 5

1. How does Juliet justify the Nurse’s tardiness?
2. What does the Nurse do to tease Juliet?
3. The Nurse finally delivers Romeo’s message to Juliet, explain what it is.
4. What is the rope ladder going to be used for?

Act 2 scene 6

1. “Do thou close our hands with holy words…” What do these words suggest?
2. Find a quote from Friar Lawrence that foreshadows future events?
3. What event takes place after Friar Lawrence, Juliet and Romeo exit the stage at the end of this scene?