

**Romeo & Juliet Act III Enrichment Activity**

**Using Paraphrases to Summarize**

**Summarizing** is briefly stating the main points of a piece of writing. Before you summarize a long passage in a Shakespearean play, you should **paraphrase** it by restating the lines in your own words. For example, compare these two versions of a speech by Romeo:

**Shakespeare’s version:**      This gentleman, the prince’s near ally, / My very friend, hath got his mortal hurt / In my behalf.

**Paraphrase:**                      My good friend, a close relative of the prince, has been fatally wounded in defending me.

Once you have paraphrased small portions of text, you can more easily and accurately summarize the entire passage.

**PART I. DIRECTIONS:** Paraphrase the following passages from Act III. Remember that a paraphrase is a restatement in your own words for clarity. It is not a summary.

1. **TYBALT.** *Romeo, the love I bear thee can afford  
No better term than this: thou art a villain.* (Scene i, ll. 57–58)

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2. **PRINCE.** *My blood for your rude brawls doth lie a-bleeding;  
But I’ll amerce you with so strong a fine  
That you shall all repent the loss of mine.* (Scene i, ll. 188–190)

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3. **JULIET.** *So tedious is this day  
As is the night before some festival  
To an impatient child that hath new robes  
And may not wear them.* (Scene ii, ll. 28–31)

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**PART II. Short Answer**

**DIRECTIONS:** Write your responses to the questions in this section on the lines provided.

**1. In Act III, Scene i, lines 11–13, of *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*, Mercutio describes Benvolio like this:**

*Come, come, thou art as hot a Jack in thy mood as any in Italy; and as soon moved to be moody, and as soon moody to be moved.*

**Paraphrase this passage.**

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**2. Three kinds of dramatic speech are soliloquy, aside, and monologue. What kind of speech does Romeo give in *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*, Act III, Scene i, lines 107–113? Explain your answer.**

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**3. In Act III, Scene v, Juliet tries to prove to Romeo that it is still night and that he does not have to leave yet. Find Romeo’s speech in which he convinces her to let him go. Give the line numbers of the speech, and briefly explain what he says.**

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**4. In Act III, Romeo and Juliet both face problems caused by their secret love. In the Chart below, list Romeo and Juliet’s particular predicaments as well as the one(s) they share.**

ROMEO	JULIET	PREDICAMENTS THEY SHARE