

Romeo & Juliet Essay Writing.

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

Your essay must contain 5 paragraphs:

1. Introduction
2. Body paragraph 1
3. Body paragraph 2
4. Body paragraph 3
5. Conclusion

Plan:

Key relationship	Conflict	Examples
Romeo & Juliet	The feud between the two families. This meant that R&J conducted their relationship in secret and without giving careful thought to their actions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Romeo’s decision to visit Juliet in the Capulet garden <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Romeo – With love’s light wings did I o’erperch these walls.” b. Juliet – “If they do see thee, they will murder thee.” 2. The decision to get married <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. “If thy bent of love be honourable...” 3. When Romeo is banished and Juliet fakes her death <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. “Come vial. Romeo, this I do drink to thee.” 4. When Romeo and Juliet commit suicide <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Romeo – “Arms take your last embrace, and lips, O you The

		<p>doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss..." "Thus with a kiss I die."</p> <p>b. Juliet – "This is thy sheath; there rust, and let me die."</p>
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Introduction:

Your introduction must contain:

- The title of the text
- The type of text (play, novel, film)
- The author or director
- A brief outline of the plot (Very brief - one sentence or two)
- A response to the question - rephrase and answer it
- An outline of your three points that will form your response to the question (these will become your body paragraphs)

William Shakespeare's play, *Romeo and Juliet* is a story of two young lovers from opposing houses in the city of Verona who fall in love and commit suicide. The conflict between the two houses, Montague and Capulet, placed pressure on Romeo and Juliet's relationship. The feud and ongoing hate and tension served to force the two protagonists to act in haste and without considering the consequences of their actions. Their decision to marry, the response to Romeo's banishment and the final acts of suicide were all done in secrecy and continued the hate fuelled tension evident between the two families.

Text type = Yellow

Author/Director = Blue

Title = Green

Plot summary = Orange

Response/answer to question = Purple

Summary/outline of points for Body paragraphs = Red

William Shakespeare's play, *Romeo and Juliet* is a story of two young lovers from opposing houses in the city of Verona who fall in love and commit suicide. The conflict between the two houses, Montague and Capulet, placed pressure on Romeo and Juliet's relationship. The feud and ongoing hate and tension served to force the two protagonists to act in haste and without considering the consequences of their actions. Their decision to marry, the response to Romeo's banishment and the final acts of suicide were all done in secrecy and continued the hate fuelled tension evident between the two families.

S.E.X.Y. Essay Structure

Statement –

The purpose of a statement is to introduce and briefly outline what your body paragraph is about. Every paragraph must have a statement. Like your introduction it should acknowledge the key components from the question.

From the very first moment Romeo and Juliet met their relationship was conducted in secret and in haste due to the hate between their two families. Their decision to marry was the first example of this.

Explanation –

This is the most important component of a S.E.X.Y. paragraph – it is where all the work happens. The purpose of the explanation is to:

- Explain the idea you wrote about in your statement
- It must create the perfect build in to your eXample

Don't fall into the trap of assuming your marker knows the text or what is in your head. You must explain in detail and avoid making 'empty' statements. Also ensure one sentence gives rise to the next.

At the end of the Capulet party, Romeo climbs into the Capulet garden against his friend's warnings. In doing this Romeo, due to the conflict between the two households, risks his life in haste, believing that he is in love with Juliet. He demonstrated an inability to think with consideration for the consequences of his actions and rushed into a situation so he could further his relationship with Juliet.

eXample –

This is evidence from the text that backs up your writings. It is designed to prove your argument and drive your paragraph forward. Quotes are best use of example. However specific referenced examples are also useful.

“If they see thee they will murder thee.” Despite Romeo knowing of the dangers he placed himself in, he chose to ignore those to establish a connection with Juliet. Knowing that they could not conduct their relationship in the open due to the conflict and animosity between the two houses Romeo and Juliet rush into a decision to marry, forcing a commitment that would otherwise take time and planning. “If thy bent of love be honourable, thy purpose marriage, send me word tomorrow.”

Due to the long-standing dispute between the two houses, both Juliet and Romeo rushed into marriage, despite the fact they had only known each other a few hours. They failed to consider the consequences of their actions and how in return these would create further lies, stresses and negative outcomes. Both were driven by their families’ conflicts, their internal conflicts and their youth, which created a relationship based on perceived love...lust, rather than a well thought out and meaningfully considered bond. “I have no joy of this contract tonight. It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden” This initial was a foreshadowing of their fate due to their rushed and thoughtless interaction.

Your opinion –

This is where the writer of the essay says what they think about the key components of the topic. They need to identify what they’ve discussed in their body paragraph -> don’t talk on multiple elements – stay focused. You also need to identify:

- Reader response
- Author intention
- Attempt to move beyond the text into society and human nature

The way that Shakespeare portrayed the teenage relationship between Romeo and Juliet was a shock to me. I couldn’t understand how two young people who had only known each other for a few hours could possibly consider marriage. It is true that teenagers and young people have a reputation for rushing into things without considering how what they are doing could affect themselves or others and they are prone to conflict. However, the way that Romeo and Juliet’s relationship is driven by the hate between their parents is more relatable. Lots of young people grow up in houses where they experience conflict in the form of violence or disputes and sometimes this can lead to them seeking love and comfort in places where they might not normally look, such as with another person in a similar situation. This story and the way that Romeo and Juliet made what should be well thought out and carefully considered choices in haste made me reflect on my own life and the relationships I have. How much do my decisions impact on others and how would my actions be judged?

Conclusion

The purpose of a conclusion is to summarise all the points you’ve covered in your essay. It MUST include:

- Title of text
- Creator of text

- Restate the three body paragraphs addressing the key components of the question.

You must not include any new information in your conclusion. If you have not said it before don't say it now. Also make sure you round off your conclusion with a final statement that alludes to literature reflecting humanity.

The conflict between the Montagues and the Capulets, was the driving force behind the fact that Romeo and Juliet acted with such haste when conducting their relationship in Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. The decision to marry, Romeo's banishment and the final acts of suicide were all the result of hasty decision making done in secret and in response to the conflict between the two houses. Reading this play provides a good way to reflect on these ideas and allows people to see that their actions have consequences that may be beyond their initial understanding.