

1. What does Benvolio think the hot weather will cause?
2. How does Mercutio treat Tybalt when he appears?
3. How do the greetings that Tybalt and Romeo exchange in lines 59–64 advance the plot?
4. What effect do the greetings between Tybalt and Romeo create?
5. How does Romeo's response to Tybalt's insult develop Romeo's character?
6. How do Mercutio's words in line 72 compare to Romeo's response to Tybalt?
7. How does Shakespeare use the stage directions to depict Mercutio's response to Tybalt's insult?
8. How do the interactions between Romeo and Mercutio continue to develop Romeo's character?
9. How does Mercutio's repetition of "[a] plague a' both your houses" develop a central idea?
10. What is "Tybalt's slander"?

11. According to Romeo, what are the consequences of Tybalt's insults?
12. Whom does Romeo blame for Mercutio's injury and why?
13. How does Romeo's reaction to the news of Mercutio's death develop a central idea?
14. According to Romeo, what will happen because of Mercutio's death?
15. What is the impact of the word *fate* on the meaning of Romeo's statement, "This day's black fate on more days doth depend"?
16. How does Romeo's response to Tybalt in lines 126–131 compare to his approach to Tybalt in lines 61–64?
17. Paraphrase Romeo's statement to Tybalt, "Either thou or I, or both, must go with him"?