

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare**2.2 Shakespeare's Language of Love**

**Introduction:** In 2.2, Romeo and Juliet express their love for one another in what is most commonly referred to as "the balcony scene." Shakespeare loads up this scene with various images of love: romantic, passionate, and sometimes even a little cheesy.

**Task 1:** Identify who said the following lines: Romeo or Juliet. Write "R" or "J" on the line next to the quote.

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| 1. _____ Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,/Having some business, do entreat her eyes/To twinkle in their spheres till they return.       | 11. _____ It is too rash, too unadvised, too sudden;/Too like the lightning, which doth cease to be/Ere one can say 'It lightens.'                                                      |
| 2. _____ See, how she leans her cheek upon her hand!/O, that I were a glove upon that hand,/That I might touch that cheek!                         | 12. _____ This bud of love, by summer's ripening breath,/May prove a beauteous flower when next we meet.                                                                                |
| 3. _____ for thou art/As glorious to this night, being o'er my head/As is a winged messenger of heaven                                             | 13. _____ My bounty is as boundless as the sea,/My love as deep; the more I give to thee,/The more I have, for both are infinite.                                                       |
| 4. _____ What's in a name? that which we call a rose/By any other name would smell as sweet;                                                       | 14. _____ all this is but a dream,/Too flattering-sweet to be substantial.                                                                                                              |
| 5. _____ Call me but love, and I'll be new baptized;                                                                                               | 15. _____ And all my fortunes at thy foot I'll lay/And follow thee my lord throughout the world.                                                                                        |
| 6. _____ My ears have not yet drunk a hundred words/Of that tongue's utterance, yet I know the sound:                                              | 16. _____ But if thou mean'st not well,/I do beseech thee--/To cease thy suit, and leave me to my grief:                                                                                |
| 7. _____ With love's light wings did I o'er-perch these walls;/For stony limits cannot hold love out                                               | 17. _____ Love goes toward love, as schoolboys from/their books,/But love from love, toward school with heavy looks.                                                                    |
| 8. _____ My life were better ended by their hate,/Than death prorogued, wanting of thy love.                                                       | 18. _____ Bondage is hoarse, and may not speak aloud;/Else would I tear the cave where Echo lies,/And make her airy tongue more hoarse than mine,/With repetition of my [lover's] name. |
| 9. _____ Thou know'st the mask of night is on my face,/Else would a maiden blush bepaint my cheek/For that which thou hast heard me speak to-night | 19. _____ How silver-sweet sound lovers' tongues by night,/Like softest music to attending ears!                                                                                        |
| 10. _____ swear by thy gracious self,/Which is the god of my idolatry                                                                              | 20. _____ I would I were thy bird.                                                                                                                                                      |

**Task 2:** Choose one of the lines from Task 1 and complete ONE of the following assignments on a separate sheet of paper:

1. Draw a sketch of the line, being sure to emphasize the love language as it applies to the play.
2. Write a love poem (minimum 10 lines, NOT counting the lines from Task 1) that uses the line in context. Your love poem does not have to be about the play.

NOTE: The slashes in the lines indicate a LINE BREAK. In your poem, these lines MUST break where they do in the scene. For example, #10 would be equivalent to TWO lines of poetry.