

Romeo and Juliet Introduction

Essential Questions

Who or what is to blame for Romeo and Juliet's death?

- Does passion help or hinder us?
- Whose needs should take precedence: self or society?
- Are we in charge of our destiny?

Performance Task:

In your study of *Romeo and Juliet*, you have focused on key scenes that highlight the quandaries Romeo and Juliet faced. You have analyzed the reasons for their choices, based on the many factors that influenced them. You have read others' opinions and related readings to better understand these factors. In consideration of what these many sources communicate about Romeo and Juliet's end,

Who or what is to blame for Romeo and Juliet's death?

To complete this task successfully, you must:

- Argue for no more than two factors, ranking them by importance in your essay.
- Develop a counterclaim to your argument(s) and provide evidence for it.
- Draw on textual evidence primarily from *Romeo and Juliet*, the critical essays we have read in class, and at least one other source from this unit.

Anticipation Guide

Write A=Agree, D=Disagree, ?=not sure

Before reading	Statement	After reading
	1.) When individual needs are in conflict with group obligations, the group should prevail.	
	2.) There are forces in life over which one has no control.	
	3. Even well-intentioned secrets can be destructive.	
	4. One's personality determines one's destiny.	
	5. In a well-ordered society, wealthy and powerful families are concerned about the general good.	
	6. At times, young people have more passion than wisdom, while older people forget the power of love.	
	7. Love is more powerful than hate.	

"Romeo and Juliet in Sarajevo" (*Frontline*, 1994)

We will watch four segments from this documentary. Each segment has a different viewing focus, asking you to consider some of the themes from our Anticipation Guide. As you watch, keep in mind the questions that will guide our study of *Romeo and Juliet*:

1. Who or what is to blame for Bosko and Admira's death?
2. Can love conquer all?

Segment #1: (Part 1: 0-5:58). Viewing Focus: Personalities and Parents: Were they to blame?

1. Characterizing Admira and Bosko:

	What others say about them	Character traits/flaws
Bosko		
Admira		

2. Characterizing Bosko and Admira's families:

	Their views on the relationship	Role/flaws
Bosko's mom		
Admira's dad		
Admira's mom		
Admira's sister		
Admira's grandmother		
Bosko's grandmother		

Conversation notes, Personalities and Parents:

Segment #2: (Part 2: 5:55-10:00). Viewing Focus: Society's Concerns: Was society's selfishness to blame?

Fill in the blanks.

3. In 1991, war broke out as _____ battled _____.
4. _____ were forced to flee, among them Bosko's _____.
5. In 1992 streets were filled with _____, _____, and Croats. Sarajevans marched in the streets hoping that they could hold on to their tradition of _____.
6. Suddenly, Bosnian Serbs fired into the crowd. This was the _____ casualty of the war. The siege of _____ had begun.
7. Once the war in Bosnia began in 1992, what were the hopes of Bosko, Admira, and their families?

8. Sarajevo 1984 vs. 1992:

	1984	1992	Impact on B and A
Descriptions of Sarajevo			

Conversation notes, Society's Concerns:

Segment #3: (Part 3: 3:35-7:45). Love and Hate: Which is stronger?

9. Everyday on the streets of Sarajevo there was even greater danger. Serbian snipers collected

German marks for every _____ they killed.

10. What does Admira's father say about hatred? What changed?

11. Every day Admir and Bosko traveled _____ from each other's parents' house to see one another.

Segment #4: (Part 7: 0:00-2:45; 5:40-7:22). Wrong place, wrong time: Is fate to blame?

12. What do we know about the circumstances of Bosko and Admira's death on May 19?

13. "Love can conquer all." What is Admira's father's opinion?

Conversation notes, Love, Hate, Fate:

-Exit Slip (Initial Assessment): Which anticipation guide statement most applies to the death of Bosko and Admira? Justify your opinion using two to three examples from your viewing "Romeo and Juliet of Sarajevo" handout.

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