Romeo and Juliet Creative Extension

Choose ONE activity from the list to express your creativity about Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*: You may work with a partner or alone.

1. Create Facebook pages for some of the main players in Romeo and Juliet and other characters. Use the template provided, or create a real one. Remember to add events, friends, groups, status updates, pictures, messages etc.
2. Rewrite an act of *Romeo and Juliet* through texting between characters. Use texting language. Be sure to divide it up into scenes.
3. Act out a scene or part of a scene from the play. Be sure to have costumes and know your lines as best as possible. Videotape this performance and bring it into the class.
4. Modernize a scene from the play and act it out. Videotape this performance and bring it to class.
5. Paint, draw, create a song, or lyrical dance that represents one of the scenes, characters or themes in the play. Painting or drawing should be of professional quality.
6. Create a “Gossip” type website or magazine like *TMZ* or *Gossip Girl* that exposes everyone’s actions and secrets. Add some spoiler alerts in to spice it up.
7. *Digital Artifacts:* Imagine that you find a USB disk next to the computer of one of the characters from the play. This USB contains personal documents – letters, “to do” lists, data, and poems written by the character for his or her eyes only. Decide on three documents, recreate them, invent file names for each, and create a fake printout of the disk directory.
8. Write a newspaper article about an event that takes place in the play (ex: Capulet Ball, a murder, the final scene, etc.). The article must have a headline and an image and be completed on white paper.
9. Record a “Readers Theatre” version of your favourite Act in the play. Add music and sound effects to make it seem realistic.
10. Keeping in mind the importance of the “stars”, fate, and astrology, design a horoscope for a character. This should be visually appealing: complete on white paper, with the written horoscope as well as a visual of the astrological sign.
11. Find a quote from the play and create a license plate from it. Ex: “JLTZSUN” (Juliet is the sun), “LYKAROZ” (Like a rose). Put your license plate on a rectangular piece of paper, and colour them. Add creative touches like registration stickers or license plate frames.
12. Create a movie poster for the play.

**Project is due: June 1, 2012**

You will be graded on how well you can creatively show understanding of the play. Be prepared to discuss and explain your project to show mastery has been reached.

**Creativity of interpretation**   
Creativity: the ability to invent and develop original ideas. Your project should reflect a creative perspective on the story. (10 points)

**Exploration of Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet***  
Your project needs to expand upon your original interpretation of the plot, character and themes in the play (10points)

**Professionalism/Effort of Visual Aid**   
Your project should look professional. Show me your very best work; don't settle for anything less! (10 points)

**Total Value: 30 points**

**MLA Guidelines:**

* Italicize the titles of plays:

*Richard III* or *Othello*

* Cite line and page numbers up to 101 like this: 34-37; above 100, you repeat only the last two figures: 211-12 (but of course, 397-405 and 96-109). Use arabic numerals rather than roman numerals for citations of acts, scenes, and line numbers:

*Twelfth Night* (1.5.268-76).

* Always use arabic numerals to refer to acts and scenes:

In 3.1, Hamlet delivers his most famous soliloquy.

(Do NOT say: In Act III, scene i, Hamlet delivers his most famous soliloquy.)

* If a prose quotation runs four lines or less, put it in quotation marks and incorporate it in the text:

The immensely obese Falstaff tells the Prince: “When I was about thy years, Hal, I was not an eagle’s talon in the waist; I could have crept into any alderman’s thumb ring” (2.4.325-27).

* If a prose quotation runs to more than four lines, set it off from your text by beginning a new line, indenting one inch from the left margin, and type it double-spaced, without adding quotation marks. A colon generally introduces an indented quotation.

In *Much Ado About Nothing*, Benedick reflects on what he has overheard Don Pedro,

Leonato, and Claudio say:

This can be no trick. The conference was sadly borne.

They have the truth of this from Hero. They seem to

pity the lady. It seems her affections have their full

bent. Love me? Why, it must be requited. I hear how I

am censured. (2.3.217-21)

In quoting shorter passages in linear form, you still need to indicate line breaks when Shakespeare is writing in verse: Othello recalls, "Upon this hint I spake: / She lov'd me for the dangers I had pass'd, / And I lov'd her that she did pity them" (1.2.166-168). **The line break is shown with /**

Jane Doe

Mrs. A. MacDonnell

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The Tragedy of Pure Love

“Pure love produces pure nonsense” (Klinger). *Romeo and Juliet* suggests that pure love, love that is not a means to an end but is an end in itself, cannot survive in the real world. Romeo and Juliet is considered one of the greatest love stories of all time, but most of the characters think love is a means to an end. Capulet wants Juliet to marry Paris to strengthen the family’s power, the Friar marries Romeo and Juliet in an attempt to end their families’ feud, and Mercutio and the Nurse think of love as a way to get sexual pleasure. The characters of Romeo and Juliet love for the pure feeling of it and for no other reason than they are meant to be together. Romantic as this seems, their pure romance ends in tragedy and perhaps is never really meant to survive in this violent setting.

Works Cited

Klinger, J. “Jonathon Klinger Quotes and Sayings”. *Search Quotes*, 2012. Web. 15 May 2012.

Shakespeare, William. *Romeo and Juliet.* Harcourt Shakespeare 2nd ed. Ed. Ken Roy. Toronto:

Harcourt Canada, 1999.