



Romeo and Juliet Literature Circle Assignment

Tragedy...

- TRAGEDY refers to classic — Greek (Aristotle) and Roman (Seneca) ideas of classical literature, not tragedy as used today.
- In contemporary media, a tragedy refers to an “event causing great suffering, destruction, or distress,” often where the victims are innocent or entirely unable to protect themselves.
- A classic / literary / Shakespearean tragedy may elicit feelings of suffering or distress, but if it does so, that would be secondary to its primary purpose.
- The effect of dramatic tragedy, according to Aristotle (in *The Poetics*), is to arouse in the spectator feelings of pity and fear in such a way as to produce a catharsis or purging of these emotions.



Tragedy Notes:

Every Shakespearean tragedy is divided into five acts and contains the following six elements:

- a starting point;
- an initial exciting force;
- some kind of rising action'
- a turning point;
- some kind of falling action;
- an ending.







Tragedy



❖ In a Shakespearean tragedy, these six elements can be found in the following acts:

- ❖ Act I Exposition, Exciting Force, Rising Action
 - ❖ Act II Rising Action
 - ❖ Act III Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action
 - ❖ Act IV Falling Action
 - ❖ Act V Falling Action, Catastrophe
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How to Read Shakespeare

<https://www.thoughtco.com/dialogue-how-to-read-shakespeare-aloud-2985078>

- **#1 – Breathe at the punctuation**
- **#2 – Tackle it one thought at a time**
- **#3 – Pay attention to capitalized words**
- **#4 - Try your best!**



Example:

Romeo:

But soft! What light through yonder window breaks? It is the east, and Juliet is the sun! Arise, fair sun, and kill the envious moon, Who is already sick and pale with grief That thou, her maid, art far more fair than she.

Romeo and Juliet, II, ii





Literature Circle - DAY 1: READ

- Assign roles in groups (each person cycles through jobs).

- Line Lighter
- Summarizer
- Discussion leader
- Journaler

- ◆ Act IV

- ◆ Assign characters to each student

- ◆ Read the entire Act out loud

- ◆ If you get stuck on vocab, refer to the text for meaning. Just do your best!

- ◆ After reading we will watch the theatre production.

Literature Circle Day 2 and 3- WRITE

❖ Act IV

There are 4 roles to do, so each person will get a role. There is a handout for each role.

❖ The roles are:

1. Discussion leader
2. Journaler
3. Summarizer
4. Line Lighter





Rubric for Literature Circle





Literature Circle Day 4 - DISCUSS



❖ Act IV

❖ Today you will be having a discussion about the Act within your group. You will follow the "Literature Circle Agenda". You must get through all 6 questions (and your discussion should last for at least an 30 min). There are four roles for discussion day as well. The roles are the same:

1. Discussion leader
2. Journaler
3. Summarizer
4. Line lighter - 2 in case of groups of 5.