



ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP THE LANGUAGE OF THE TEXT

- Find the Act 1 Scene 1 section on the Language part of the web-site. Use the 'Tools' button to find examples of different techniques used in the language of this scene. Select the 'Simile' option which will show you a simile comparing Romeo's secrecy to a parasite in a flower bud. What does this simile tell you about what keeping secret doing to Romeo's personality at the start of the play? Try some of the other options such as metaphor or repetition and see how they are add to the speech
- Find the Act 3 Scene 1 section on the Language part of the web-site. Use the 'Tools' button and select 'Dramatic Irony'. You will see an explanation of dramatic irony and an example highlighted in the scene. Read the highlighted text and explain what it is that the audience knows that Tybalt does not that makes this is an example of dramatic irony.
- Find the Act 3 Scene 5 section on the Language part of the web-site. Use the 'Tools' button and select 'Metaphor'. You will see an explanation of metaphor and an example from the scene where Lord Capulet describes Juliet as 'bark' (a ship) on a stormy sea. Explain what the actor playing Juliet might learn from this metaphor about how she should show Juliet's emotions in this scene.
- Find the Act 2 Scene 2 section on the Language part of the web-site. Use the 'Tools' button and select 'Metaphor'. You will see that 'Juliet is the sun' is highlighted which is one of the most well-known metaphors in the play. Read lines 1 – 32 of the scene and make a note of all the ways in which Romeo compares Juliet to the sun, moon, stars and angels in this section. What do all these examples show the audience about Romeo's feelings for Juliet?
- Listen to the blog that the actor playing Capulet has posted. He describes the way that Capulet seems a very harsh person and almost 'psychotic' which means he is almost mentally deranged at in his behaviour. Now read Act 3 Scene 5 lines 140 – 195 where he reacts to hearing that Juliet is still refusing to marry Paris. Identify the words and phrases that he uses when talking about his own daughter which emphasise this 'psychotic' aspect of his character.