

GCSE English  
5EH2H/01

Romeo and Juliet  
Higher Tier

The purpose of this pack is to provide centres with the question paper, mark scheme and a set of exemplar materials with commentaries.

The individual documents can be found on our website at [www.edexcel.com](http://www.edexcel.com)

Included in this pack:

- Question and extract from Summer 2012 Paper
- Marked scripts with the mark and band
- Examiner commentary and mark scheme

**Extract taken from Act 5, Scene 3.**

**Romeo:** Live and be prosperous – and farewell, good fellow.

**Balthasar:** (*Aside*) For all this same, I'll hide me hereabout.  
His looks, I fear, and his intents I doubt.

**ROMEO opens the tomb.**

**Romeo:** Thou detestable maw! – Thou womb of death! –  
Gorged with the dearest morsel of the earth! –  
Thus I enforce thy rotten jaws to open,  
And in despite I'll cram thee with more food.

**Paris:** (*Aside*) This is that banished haughty Montague  
That murdered my love's cousin, with which grief  
It is supposed the fair creature died –  
And here is come to do some villainous shame  
To the dead bodies. I will apprehend him!

**He comes forward to challenge ROMEO.**

Stop thy unhallowed toil, vile Montague!  
Can vengeance be pursued further than death?  
Condemnèd villain, I do apprehend thee!  
Obey, and go with me, for thou must die.

**Romeo:** I must indeed – and therefore came I hither.  
Good gentle youth, tempt not a desperate man.  
Fly hence and leave me. Think upon these gone –  
Let them affright thee. I beseech thee, youth,  
Put not another sin upon my head  
By urging me to fury. O, be gone!  
By heaven, I love thee better than myself  
For I come hither armed against myself.  
Stay not, be gone! Live – and hereafter say  
A madman's mercy bid thee run away.

**Paris:** I do defy thy conjurations  
And apprehend thee for a felon here!

**Romeo:** Wilt thou provoke me? Then have at thee, boy!

**They fight.**

## Question part (a)

(a) Explain how Shakespeare presents the character of Romeo in the extract.

Use **evidence** from the extract to support your answer.

(7)

## Script 1 response to part a)

### Band 3 – 6 marks

Valid supported references to character

a) In the extract, we see that Romeo is very imaginative and almost seems crazy as he describes the tomb where Juliet is buried. "I enforce thy rotten jaws to open, and in despite I'll cram thee with more food." Romeo is of course talking to an inanimate object, it is not going to reply. This leads me to believe that Romeo has totally lost any sense of reality since hearing of Juliet's death - it is as if it has sent him crazy. He sees the tomb as some sort of monster, with 'rotten jaws', it has just eaten Juliet with ~~the~~ those jaws and now Romeo is letting the tomb eat him too. Romeo also describes himself as being 'food', ~~which~~ which further supports the idea of him being mentally insane at this point in the ~~play~~ play.

Explanation of points about character

Valid supported points about character

(Section A continued) We also see from the extract that Romeo has no hatred towards Paris, despite the fact ~~she~~<sup>Paris</sup> is in love with his wife, Juliet. 'I love thee better than myself.' This seems surprising at first, as we automatically assume that Romeo dislikes Paris because he wants to marry Juliet. However, it is never mentioned in the play that Romeo and Paris ever met, and now that Juliet is believed to be dead, Romeo would see no threat from Paris any longer anyway. Romeo declaring that he loves Paris more than himself could be because he believes Juliet's death is his fault, so he only feels hatred to himself. Juliet is believed to be dead from missing Tybalt, and it was Romeo who killed Tybalt. This also shows that Romeo has an understanding of emotions, as he knows that there is no real reason to hate Paris.

Exploration of the character points. Perceptive.

Exploration of the character points. Perceptive.

### Examiner summary:

*The response begins with two intertwined points: 'imaginative' and 'crazy'. Both are valid and supported with reference to the extract. The candidate understands what Romeo is saying and what it might tell us about his character. The response then states 'no hatred towards Paris' which is questioned and explored, showing understanding and some perception.*

**Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:**

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perceptive understanding of the character.</li> <li>• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.</li> </ul>
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**To achieve a higher mark:**

This response is in the top band and as such shows some perceptive understanding of character with discriminating reference. This is particularly shown in the second page discussing Romeo's relationship with Paris, as seen in the extract. Full marks could be achieved by sustaining this analysis throughout the full answer.

**Script 2 response to part a)**

**Band 3 - 7 marks**

Shakespeare presents Romeo as a kind man, 'Live and be prosperous- and farewell good fellow'. This shows us that Romeo wishes for noone else to be involved in his misfortune, ~~the word 'live' is an imperative~~ and ~~this that~~ the word 'good' is a gentle, soothing word, this indicates that Romeo is also trying not to worry his friend Balthasar.

Valid supported reference to character

Explanation of the points

We learn that Romeo is also a demanding character, 'Fly hence and leave me' these imperatives tells us that Romeo's fury is building up and that he wishes to be alone, this shows how ~~his~~ ~~that~~ he is beginning to gain more authority and confidence to even ~~disobey~~ others.

Valid supported reference to character, with explanation

Valid supported  
reference to  
character, with  
explanation

continued) Romeo also starts to become more  
passionate 'Thou detestable man! - Thou  
womb of death!' The exclamatories here  
indicate that Romeo is becoming agitated  
and more expressive. The words 'detestable'  
and 'womb of death' are all negative  
imagery and words Romeo is saying. Romeo  
in this extract has become more hateful  
and dark compared to at the beginning  
of the novel.

### Examiner summary:

The candidate begins with a valid point about Romeo being 'kind' and shows perceptive understanding in discussing his words to Balthazar. The second paragraph contains a number of valid points, all of which are supported with discriminating reference to the extract: 'demanding', 'fury', 'authority' and 'confident to disobey'. The candidate makes further reference to Romeo's character: 'more passionate', 'agitated', and 'more expressive' and these are also supported. There is a perceptive understanding of the differences within Romeo's character as seen within this extract.

### Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of the character.</li><li>• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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### To achieve a higher mark:

This answer has achieve maximum marks

# Script 3 response to part (a)

Band 3 – 7 marks

Valid supported points about character with explanation. Perceptive

(1a)  
● - Shakespeare in this extract shows Romeo's friendly side, ~~his~~ nice side to him, the text shows this by saying "Live and be ~~prop~~ prosperous - and give well, good fellow." The writer uses ~~an~~ the adjective "good", to describe Balthasar. This shows even though Romeo's mind is in an ~~an~~ dark pain, and wanting to kill himself, he is still the same to his friend, and is back to how we saw him at the start of the play. This shows that Romeo's friends means ~~so~~ so much to him, and that he wants to say goodbye to him, in a nice friendly way.

From this extract we learn that Romeo's mind is in a dark place, for example "Thus I enforce thy rotten jaws to open, and in despite I'll cram them with more good." The Shakespeare uses lots personification, and and lots of negative images. He ~~does~~ makes compare makes the tomb be like a mouth, and which has eaten Juliet, and that Romeo wants to give it more good (himself). This shows that

Valid supported points about character with explanation. Perceptive

(Section A continued) Romeo's mind is in a dark place because he is picturing ~~of~~ opening "rotten beds", to get to Juliet, and that he wants to feed himself to ~~it~~ ~~instead~~. Instead of a peaceful, holy place, the tomb is pictured as a monster in Romeo's mind.

Valid supported points about character with explanation.

We also learn from this extract Romeo that he is desperate, we learn this because it says "tempt not a desperate man", this shows that Romeo knows himself that he is desperate, and wants everyone to know and wants to be left alone. This also shows that he ~~is~~ ~~doesn't~~ is worried that he will do something to ~~par~~ Paris, and he is warning him, that he ~~doesn't~~ ~~want~~ want to ignore him, and that he should leave, because it's too late.

Valid supported points about character with explanation.

Another thing we learn from this extract is that Romeo still wants to kill himself. Shakespeare shows this because it says "for I come hither ~~to~~ <sup>armed against</sup> myself." This shows that Romeo is ~~saying~~ ~~that~~ ~~he~~ has come to kill himself, ~~still~~, and hasn't come for any one else, and doesn't want to hurt Paris, and it is trying to tell him that he has <sup>come</sup> ~~come~~ ~~got~~ to kill himself. "armed against myself."

Valid supported points about character with explanation. Perceptive

tion A continued) Finally we learn that Romeo doesn't want any more violence," But not another sin upon my head." This shows that Romeo doesn't want to hurt anyone else, and is warning Paris, to prevent any more violence. It also shows that Romeo ~~is thinking about~~ doesn't want to do any more in his "sin", this shows that he is influenced by God, and doesn't want to ~~do more~~ sin any more, making it worse for him after he.

### Examiner summary:

*This response opens with a perceptive first paragraph: 'even though Romeo's mind is in a dark point' he is still capable of being friendly. Reference to 'dark imagery' supports the point that Romeo is in a 'dark place'. Points about Romeo being desperate and wanting to be left alone are well-supported, as are the comments about Romeo wanting to kill himself and not wanting to hurt Paris.*

### Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of the character.</li><li>• Discriminating reference to the extract to support response.</li></ul>
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### To achieve a higher mark:

This response has achieved maximum marks

## Question part (b)

(b) Using your understanding of the extract, explain how the following lines might be performed.

(7)

**Romeo** Stay not, be gone! Live – and hereafter say  
A madman's mercy bid thee run away.

**Paris** I do defy thy conjurations  
And apprehend thee for a felon here!

**Romeo** Wilt thou provoke me? Then have at thee, boy!

*They fight*

Valid reference to tone of voice with explanation

### Script 1 response to part b)

b) When Romeo says 'Stay not, be gone!' he would be shouting as he is desperate for ~~Paris~~ <sup>Paris</sup> to leave so he can spend time to mourn Juliet alone and then kill himself. Not only does the exclamation mark suggest this, but also the use of a short sentence.

This section explores movement and tone of voice and relates performance to knowledge of the character/play

When Romeo says 'Wilt thou provoke me?' he would be walking towards Paris to show he is not afraid of a fight if he is going to kill himself anyway. Emphasis would be put on 'provoke me?' as it is a rhetorical question and Romeo already made it clear that he did not want to fight. Romeo previously told Paris not to fight him and to run away. Paris disobeying him has made him angry so now he would raise and deepen his voice to convey his emotions.

Valid references to movement, gestures and tone of voice. Related to knowledge of the characters within the play. Perceptive

(Section A continued) When Romeo says 'Then have it at thee, boy!' he would charge towards Paris, and stand up tall to make ~~himself~~ himself seem bigger and to make Paris ~~feel~~ feel weak. Romeo would be shouting as at this point his ~~emotions~~ emotions are so strong (from Juliet's death and Paris disobeying him) that he does not care if others hear. He would raise his weapon, probably a sword, to show that Romeo believes he has a higher authority over Paris.

### Examiner summary:

*The candidate explains that Romeo shouts because he is 'desperate for Paris to leave'. The movement towards Paris is fully explained. The candidate indicates Romeo's change in posture as he says 'then have it at thee, boy!'. Perception is shown by 'does not care'. The raising of the weapon is explained by reference to the situation. A particular strength of this response is in the reasons given for the performance features described. Overall, this perceptive response is worthy of maximum marks.*

### Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of effectiveness of performance techniques.</li><li>• Discriminating reference to the lines from extract to support response.</li></ul>
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### To achieve a higher mark:

This answer has achieved maximum marks

Script 2 response to part b)

Band 3 - 7 marks

Valid reference to movement and tone of voice with explanation

part B

When Romeo says 'stay not, be gone!' he will be pushing Paris away because he does not wish to include Paris in any more incidents. When Romeo says 'be gone!' his voice will get louder as he wishes Paris to listen to him.

When Romeo says 'bid thee run away' he ~~not~~ will point in the direction he wants Paris to go with a pleading look on his face, he's doing this because he is worried that Paris will try kill Romeo

Valid reference to gestures and facial expressions, with explanation

when he wants to kill himself.

Valid reference to movement and tone of voice with explanation

The line 'I do defy thy conjurations' will be said in a slow deep tone as Paris begins to draw his sword and point it at Romeo's heart. Paris says it in a slow deep tone to make sure Romeo understands that he wishes to fight. Paris emits the sword at Romeo's heart to indicate where he is aiming for.

Valid reference to movement, facial expressions and tone of voice with explanation

When Paris says 'apprehend thee for a felon here!' he will shout this with an angry expression on his face because he's remembering the death of his loved Juliet. The words 'felon here!' Paris will step forward and chuck a spare sword in front of Romeo, Paris is trying to provoke Romeo.

Romeo will kneel to the ground when saying 'Then have at thee' to pick up the sword then stand back up and begin to snicker when saying 'boy!' and he begins to scorn and aim the sword at Tybalt. Romeo does this because he is now angry and prepared to fight.

Valid reference to movement, facial expressions and tone of voice with explanation. Perceptive

**Examiner summary:**

*The candidate has, in the limited time available, given a full and perceptive answer. Many aspects of performance are included: 'pushing', 'gets louder', 'point', 'pleading' and 'worried'; Paris 'says it in a low deep tone' and 'aim the sword'; He 'will shout this with an angry expression on his face' and is 'trying to provoke'; Romeo 'snickers' and is scornful, then angry. All of these valid points, supported with textual references and explanations, show perceptive understanding.*

**Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:**

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of effectiveness of performance techniques.</li><li>• Discriminating reference to the lines from extract to support response.</li></ul>
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**To achieve a higher mark:**

This response has achieve maximum marks

## Script 3 response to part b)

Band 3 – 7 marks

Valid reference to movement, and gestures with explanation

①②③ - When Romeo says "Stay not, be gone!", he would be pointing towards an ~~er~~ away from the bomb, and looking right into ~~Paris~~ Paris's eyes, ~~for~~ looking very serious. He would be doing this, because he wants ~~a~~ Paris to leave, and is ~~getting~~ ~~angry~~ being very serious, ~~and~~ because he wants to be alone with Juliet.

Then when Romeo says "live - and here after say A mad - mans mercy, but thee run away". Romeo would lower his arms, and move ~~to~~ towards Paris, who is clutching his ~~same~~ sword, and ~~to~~ move his hand away from the sword. Romeo will be smiling, but still looking into ~~a~~ Paris's ~~eyes eyes eyes~~ eyes, and when he says "madman, he would be ~~to~~ pointing his own head. He would ~~go~~ do this to try and convince Paris to leave, and take the thought of fighting

This section gives valid references to movements, gestures and facial expressions with perceptive explanations (continued on the page below)

(Section A continued) out of his need, and giving Paris excuses to leave, to protect Paris's honor.

But when Paris says "I do deny thy conjurations and apprehend thee for a felon here!" Paris would push Romeo away and pull out his sword. He would be looking angry, and looking at Romeo. He does this because he is upset with Romeo, and is angry with him, because he blames him for Juliet's death, and shouldn't be here, ~~and so~~ and wants to kill Romeo, no matter the consequences.

Finally when Romeo says "With thou provide me? Then have at thee, boy!" at first he will be shocked, then his anger will kick in, and he will attack and he will draw his sword, looking at Paris, ready to kill him. His voice would raise when he says "boy!" to try and manipulate Paris, and scare him. He would do this because he is ~~is~~ ~~also~~ has try to reason with Paris, because he has no problems with Paris, that's why he will be shocked, then because of his mental state he would get angry and attack Paris.

Valid references to movements and facial expressions with explanations. Perceptive

Valid references to movements and tone of voice with explanations. Perceptive

### Examiner summary:

This is a perceptive response. The candidate offers comments on Romeo's actions: being very serious; his gestures and expressions ('lower his arms', 'move towards Paris', 'smiling' and 'looking into Paris' eyes') are all explained and supported. The point about 'giving Paris excuses to leave' demonstrates perceptive understanding, as does Paris pushing Romeo away because 'he blames him for Juliet's death'. Romeo registers shock then anger.

*The point that 'He says 'boy' to try and manipulate Paris' is valid and shows perception.*

**Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:**

3	6-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of effectiveness of performance techniques.</li><li>• Discriminating reference to the lines from extract to support response.</li></ul>
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**To achieve a higher mark:**

This response has achieved maximum marks

### Question part (c)

(c) In the extract, we see violence.

Explore the significance of violence in **one other** part of the play.

(10)

### Script 1 response to part c)

Band 2 – 4 marks

Valid reference  
to one other part

c) One other part of the play where violence is shown is when Romeo kills Tybalt. He does this because he wants to get revenge after Tybalt killed his best friend, Mercutio. It is obvious that Romeo is immature and did not think this through, as it resulted in Romeo being banished. Romeo and Tybalt also verbally attack each other after Tybalt finds out Romeo attended the Capulet party and confronts him about it. As they are both from separate

Explanation  
of violence  
in the  
selected  
section

Significance  
of the  
theme

Significance  
of the  
theme

(Section A continued) families that hate each other, they have been brought up to hate one another so it is clear that they would end up fighting at some point.

**Examiner summary:**

*The candidate has identified an appropriate other part of the play. Points about the motivation for the violence ('revenge') and Romeo's character ('immature') are valid as the link to the significance of this event 'it resulted in Romeo being banished'.*

**Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:**

2	4-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thorough understanding of theme and its importance</li><li>• Sustained reference to one other part of the play to support response.</li></ul>
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**To achieve a higher mark:**

This response has only just provided enough understanding of the significance of the theme to move into Band 2. The response needs to give more effects of the chosen event and more analysis of their significance to move comfortably into 'thorough understanding'

Script 2 response to part c)

Band 3 – 8 marks

part C

Valid  
reference to  
one other  
part

Another part in the play where violence is important is the fight between Mercutio, Tybalt and Romeo.

Significance  
of the theme

This section shows conflict between the two families and how one death can lead to a series of others.

If Mercutio and Tybalt did not fight which resulted in Mercutio's death then Romeo would not have killed Tybalt which lead to Romeo's banishment, because Romeo got banished he could not receive Friar Lawrence's letter which in the long run lead to both Juliet's and Romeo's death.

Significance  
of the theme

The violence conflict we see between Romeo and Tybalt is irrational because Romeo got ~~as~~ hot headed in the heat of the moment at Mercutio's death, if Romeo just thought about his actions before he implied them into a fight then ~~or~~ ~~instead~~ just Tybalt would get the punishment and be banished, but because we learn that Romeo is a good friend to Mercutio he would quickly jump to his aid and show aggression that lead to his future death.

Explanation of the theme with valid reference to knowledge of the characters and the significance of the chosen event within the play

#### Examiner summary:

The candidate selects an appropriate other part of the play to discuss the theme of violence. The second paragraph is a clear statement of the theme's significance: 'one death can lead to a series of others'. The third paragraph deals with the chain of events, their cause and effect, which is valid in terms of the significance of the selected event, but limits the perceptiveness of the response. The comment on Romeo being 'hot-headed' shows an understanding of his character flaw and the candidate also shows some perceptive appreciation of Romeo's friendship with Mercutio. Overall the response just edges into Band 3.

#### Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perceptive understanding of theme and its importance</li> <li>• Discriminating reference to one other part of the play to support response.</li> </ul>
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#### To achieve a higher mark:

The response shows just enough perceptive understanding and discriminating reference to edge into Band 3. However, to achieve a mark higher in the band the response needs to show more perceptive interpretation of the selected event in the play along with interpretations of characters, as noted in the examiner summary.

Script 3 response to part c)

Band 3 – 10 marks

Valid reference to one other part

(1c) The theme of violence is significant in act 3 scene 1, the fight between Mercutio and Tybalt.

(Section A continued) It is significant because it results in the death of Romeo's best friend Mercutio. This changes Romeo's character, causing lots of anger, and goes on to kill Tybalt, killing him causing exile. It is significant, because at that point it's where things turn wrong, and Romeo gets violent, instead of being where he is in love, and is a friendly person. This ~~shows~~ shows how loyal Romeo is to his friends, and how irrational Romeo is. Because of losing his best friend, he acts quickly to avenge him, killing Tybalt, which causes exile, and the chain of events leading to the death at the end of the play.

Explanation of the significance of the theme. Perceptive

~~Violence is also significant~~, another reason why violence is important is during Mercutio and Tybalt's fight is because we see Romeo's violent side. This is important because we see it again at the end of the play killing Paris. This ~~brings out~~ brings out Romeo's ~~side~~ shows the reader a side to Romeo people hadn't seen before, and ~~with~~ this changed Romeo's mind, causing him to go crazy ~~at the end~~.

Further explanation of the significance of the theme. Perceptive

**Examiner summary:**

*The candidate chooses an appropriate other part of the play. There is a perceptive understanding of the significance not only because this 'changes Romeo's character' but due to the cause and future effect of these changes ('gets violent', 'leading to death at the end of the play', 'causing him to go crazy') and in demonstrating Romeo's violent side to the audience.*

**Band this answer achieves in the mark scheme:**

3	8-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Perceptive understanding of theme and its importance</li><li>• Discriminating reference to one other part of the play to support response.</li></ul>
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**To achieve a higher mark:**

This answer has achieved maximum marks