**ROMEO AND JULIET**

**READING COMPREHENSION**

**ACT 2**

**YEAR 3 AND 4**

Lord Capulet stood on the steps of his mansion, waving farewell to the last of the guests. Behind him, servants cleared away the remains of the night’s feasting. It had been a good party, he thought - everyone had left satisfied. He yawned and closed the door. One guest, though, was still there, hiding. An enemy. A Montague. Unobserved, he had climbed the garden wall, and concealed himself in the orchard. Romeo crouched beneath the trees waiting, trying to keep as quiet as possible, though the beat of his heart was deafening. He couldn’t help it. Any love he’d felt till now was nothing - not even worthy of the word ‘Love’. And the heart that seemingly beat in his chest now, he knew, was, in fact, with Juliet; he had given it to her. Juliet… just thinking her name made that heart beat even louder. Surely someone would hear it and find him?

1. **Who stood on the steps of his mansion?**

Lord Montague Lady Capulet

Lord Capulet Romeo

1. **What is a mansion?**

A large, impressive house A small flat

A swimming pool A cottage

1. **Who was still hiding in the orchard**

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1. *‘Unobserved, Romeo had climbed the garden wall, and concealed himself in the orchard’.*

**Underline the verb that shows how Romeo got into the orchard.**

1. *‘Romeo crouched beneath the trees waiting, trying to keep as quiet as possible’.*

**Join each word to its synonym (remember a synonym is a word or phrase that means exactly or close to the same as another word)**

Quiet Under

Crouched Hanging around

Waiting Bent down

Beneath Silent

1. **A. Does Romeo still love Rosaline?**

YES NO

**B.** **Justify your answer with evidence from the text**

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**Read the next passage:**

Romeo started with surprise. Someone was indeed coming out onto the balcony above.

**“**But soft, what light through yonder window breaks?” he whispered.

As he realised who it was, that beating heart stopped for a split second.

It was Juliet; and, just as – in Romeo’s eyes - she had outshone the torches in the ballroom, now she seemed to him to sparkle even more brilliantly: brighter than the moon and stars that still hung in the sky above. He held his breath. His beloved was speaking. He leaned forward, desperate to catch her words.

### Juliet was both happier and unhappier than she had ever been. She had never felt like this before – as if her heart were about to explode. And yet, at the same time, if only he were not a Montague….

1. **Why was Romeo surprised?**

He wasn’t expecting to see someone come out onto the balcony

Someone touched him on the shoulder

He saw a guard coming towards him

1. **What does Romeo think Juliet shines *‘brighter than’?***

Sunshine Moon and stars

Treasure Gold and diamonds

1. **Copy the phrase that shows Romeo wanted to hear everything Juliet was saying**

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1. **Number these in order in which they happened**

Juliet came out onto the balcony

Romeo climbed over the wall

Juliet spoke of her love for Romeo

Lord Capulet waved his guests goodbye