

BBC LIVE LESSONS AND ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY

Worksheet 1 - Shared sonnet

Key Objective

To explore the shared sonnet between Romeo and Juliet and analyse text through performance.

Classroom Resources

To complete the following activity during the Live Lesson you will need:

- · A copy of this worksheet
- Pens or highlighters

Learning about sonnets

The following activity introduces the shared sonnet in Act 1, Scene 5 of Romeo and Juliet – the 'party scene'.

Read the sonnet on the next page and look out for the words at the end of each line. Can you identify which lines rhyme?

Romeo and Juliet's shared sonnet is punctuated with repeated words. Can you highlight or underline the words in the sonnet that are repeated?

Get your teachers to email your answers to us at live.lessons@bbc.co.uk or contact us using the hashtag #bbclivelessons before and during the Live Lesson, including your name and school name in the message. You could see your answer mentioned on the live programme.

Watch the Live Lesson to find out the significance of these rhyming and repeated words.

Romeo and Juliet's Sonnet Act 1, Scene 5

ROMEO	If I profane with my unworthiest hand	1
	This holy shrine, the gentle sin is this:	1 2 3
	My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand	3
	To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.	4
JULIET	Good pilgrim, you do wrong your hand too much,	5
	Which mannerly devotion shows in this,	6
	For saints have hands that pilgrims' hands do touch,	6 7
	And palm to palm is holy palmers' kiss.	8
ROMEO	Have not saints lips, and holy palmers too?	9
JULIET	Ay, pilgrim, lips that they must use in prayer.	10
ROMEO	O, then, dear saint, let lips do what hands do:	11
	They pray, grant thou, lest faith turn to despair.	12
JULIET	Saints do not move, though grant for prayers' sake.	13
ROMEO	Then move not, while my prayer's effect I take.	14

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