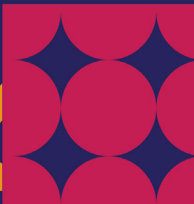


ROMEO AND JULIET



The activity addresses PA Academic Standards 9.1.12 F, 9.3.8 B, 9.2.12J, 9.2.12L and National Core Arts Standards MU:Re7.2.8b, MU:Pr4.2.8c, MU:Re7.2.8b

Act One, Scene One

Critical Thinking

Understanding the choices artists make helps us to better understand what they are trying to communicate. Practice identifying the artistic choices made in three different film adaptations of *Romeo and Juliet*, as well as in Shakespeare's play and in Prokofiev's ballet. Use the prompts below to consider the decisions made in portraying act 1, scene 1 of *Romeo and Juliet*.

What You Will Need

- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare (script)
- *Romeo and Juliet*: Act 1, Scene 1 (compilation video)
 - Access video on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/2JoOXcURfyw>
 - Note: Movie rating is PG-13
- *Romeo and Juliet*, Op. 64, No. 2-7 by Sergei Prokofiev
 - Recommended recording by London Symphony Orchestra, André Previn, conductor
 - [Full album](#) is available on YouTube

INSTRUCTIONS

Part 1

Read act 1, scene 1 of *Romeo and Juliet*. Use the graphic organizer to take notes about the choices Shakespeare makes to tell the beginning of the story.

As a class, watch the *Romeo and Juliet: Act 1, Scene 1* video compilation featuring the 1968, 1996, and 2013 movie adaptations of Shakespeare's work. Reference Shakespeare's script as you watch. Use the graphic organizer to take notes on the artistic choices made in each movie.

As a class, discuss the following:

- What similarities did you notice between the play and the three movie adaptations?
- What original lines from Shakespeare did each movie keep? Did any original lines appear in all three movies? Why do you think those specific lines appear?
- What changes did each movie adaptation make from Shakespeare's original script?
- What was your overall impression of each movie adaptation? What stood out to you?

Part 2

As a class, listen to *Romeo and Juliet*, Op. 64, No. 2-7 by Sergei Prokofiev.

As a class, discuss the following:

- How does Prokofiev sequence the action of act 1, scene 1?
- When is Romeo introduced? Describe the music Prokofiev writes for his introduction. How does it compare to the character Shakespeare introduces in act 1, scene 1?
- What is similar between Prokofiev and Shakespeare's telling of act 1, scene 1?
- How does Prokofiev's music change during act 1, scene 1? What aesthetic does he create with his music for this scene?

Which version of act 1, scene 1 of *Romeo and Juliet* do you find the most compelling: Shakespeare, Prokofiev, 1968 movie adaptation, 1996 movie adaptation, or the 2013 movie adaptation? Why?

GRAPHIC ORGANIZER

	Shakespeare	Film 1 (1968)	Film 2 (1996)	Film 3 (2013)
Setting				
Cast				
Introduction of Romeo				
Emotional Impact				
Overall Aesthetic				