



ROMEO AND JULIET

Lesson 1: Main activity (30 mins approx.)

Watch the scene with students and get their first impressions before focusing in on the section provided in the Act 3 Scene 5 edit. Ask students to work individually with the edit to start with, highlighting all the adjectives Capulet uses to describe Juliet in one colour. Can they group the adjectives into categories? What do these categories tell us about Capulet and his feelings in this scene? How do students respond to this behaviour? Is this normal and expected behaviour for someone in Capulet's world? How do we know? (i.e. what is Lady Capulet's response? she clearly thinks he is going overboard!) Why is he so angry? Discuss students' views as a class.

Now ask students to take all of the adjectives Capulet uses to describe Juliet and write them in a list. Once they are finished, move the chairs and tables to one side so that you have space to walk around the room. Ask students to walk around the room slowly, with their list of adjectives. When they make eye contact with a classmate, they need to stop, and insult each other with one of the adjectives, thinking carefully about the tone they use, before moving on to the next classmate. Give students a few minutes to do this activity before asking them to sit back down and share how it felt to a) say the adjectives to someone else b) have someone say the adjectives to them. How would Juliet feel, hearing her father say this to her? Why do they think Capulet is so angry as to say such words to his daughter? What pressures is he under to produce this kind of response? What might hearing this from her father provoke Juliet to do?

