Reading Guide questions act II of *Romeo and Juliet*

1. What was the **conflict** introduced in act 1?
2. What is the **setting** at the beginning of act II? What does the **chorus** tell the reader?
3. Where do Benvolio and Mercutio believe Romeo has gone?
4. Focusing on Mercutio’s speech in lines beginning with line 6 through 16, what action is he taking specifically aimed at Romeo? Based on those actions, how would you characterize Mercutio?
5. With whom do they believe Romeo is in love? What literary term is applicable here and why?
6. Explain how there is a **double meaning** in the quote, **“If love be blind, love cannot hit the mark**.”
7. What is the setting of scene two?
8. What does Romeo mean when he states, “It is the East and Juliet is the sun!” What should the reader inferred about Juliet based on the comment?
9. In Juliet’s **soliloquy** at the bottom of page 820 (lines 33-36), what is she truly saying to Romeo?
10. At this point are these two individuals truly in love?
11. Explain what Romeo’s meaning is when he states, “**Neither, fair maid, if either dislike**.”
12. What complication threatens the lovers’ happiness? Which individual seems to take this threat more seriously?
13. What is Romeo willing to do if Juliet says that she does not love him?
14. **In act II scene ii,** Romeo and Juliet admit their love for one another. Juliet is to contact Romeo(through a servant) the next day. Why?
15. What does Juliet ask of Romeo concerning the promise they made?
16. Focusing on the line said by Juliet , “**Good night, Good Night! Parting is such sweet sorrow that I shall say goodnight till it be morrow,**” important to the plot of the story? What is that line inferring about the characters’ intentions and personas?
17. Where is Romeo headed at the end of scene II? Why?
18. Friar is a member of the clergy. What is he doing at the beginning of scene 3?
19. Explain how the following quote is relevant to the situation between Romeo and Juliet, “**Two such opposite powers are in man as well as in flower.”**
20. What is the Friar’s reaction to the news of Romeo’s prior evening and his current love interest? How does the Friar treat Romeo as a result?
21. Why does Friar Laurence agree to marry Romeo and Juliet?
22. In scene 4, Mercutio pokes fun at Romeo for falling in love with Rosaline and being gone all evening- ditching his friends so to speak. What is Romeo’s reaction? Why is Romeo’s reaction **NOT** surprising to the reader?
23. Explain the nurse’s role in Scene 4 for Juliet and for Romeo (**they are different in nature**)?
24. What is the message the nurse beings to Juliet?
25. Explain the warning Friar Lawrence gives Romeo foreshadowing future events of the play.