Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Romeo & Juliet*

Act 5, Scene 1

**Summary**

On Wednesday morning, Romeo describes a wonderful dream he had the night before: Juliet found him lying dead, but she kissed him, and breathed new life into his body. Just then, Balthasar enters, and Romeo greets him happily. Romeo thinks that Balthasar must have come from Verona with news about Juliet and Romeo’s father. Romeo says that no news could be bad news as long as Juliet is well. Balthasar replies that nothing can be bad then, for Juliet is well – she is in heaven, found dead that morning in her home. Romeo cries out, “Then I defy you, stars!”

He tells Balthasar to get him a pen and paper. He writes a letter for Balthasar to give to Montague. Romeo also tells Balthasar to hire horses, and says that he will return to Verona that night. Balthasar says that Romeo seems so upset that he’s afraid to leave him, but Romeo insists. Romeo suddenly stops and asks if Balthasar is carrying a letter from Friar Lawrence. Balthasar says he is not, and Romeo sends his servant on his way. Once Balthasar is gone, Romeo says that he will lie with Juliet that night. He goes to find an apothecary, a seller of drugs. Romeo tells the man in the shop that he looks poor. Romeo then offers to pay him a lot of money for a vial of poison. The apothecary says that he has just such a thing, but that selling poison in Mantua carries a death sentence if he’s caught. Romeo replies that the Apothecary is too poor to refuse to sell it. The apothecary finally gives in and sells the poison to Romeo. Once he’s by himself, Romeo talks to the vial of poison. He says that he will go to Juliet’s tomb and kill himself.

**Questions**:

1. What was Romeo’s dream about?
2. What is Balthasar’s news?
3. What does Romeo tell Balthasar to do? (he tells him to do two things)
4. Where does Romeo go after he sends Balthasar away?
5. What does Romeo buy?
6. Why does the apothecary hesitate before selling the vial to Romeo? What happens if he’s caught selling it?
7. What does Romeo say he will do when he gets back to Verono?