Comprehension

1. **Recall**  What reason does Paris give for Lord Capulet’s decision to move up the wedding?

2. **Recall**  At first, what does Juliet believe is the only solution to her problem?

3. **Summarize**  What plan does Friar Laurence devise for Juliet, and what reservations does Juliet have about this plan?

Literary Analysis

4. **Reading Shakespearean Drama**  Review the events you recorded as you read Act Four, and think about how the characters’ interactions drive the plot forward. If the nurse had accompanied Juliet to Friar Laurence’s cell, do you think Juliet would have made a different decision? Explain.

5. **Make Judgments**  Do you feel sympathy for the Capulets, the nurse, and Paris when they express grief over Juliet’s death? Why or why not?

6. **Identify Dramatic Irony**  Dramatic irony exists when the reader or viewer knows something that one or more of the characters do not. Find three examples of dramatic irony in Act Four and record them in a chart like the one shown. Then explain how these ironic moments contribute to the building tension in the play.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scene and Lines</th>
<th>Dramatic Irony</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scene 1, lines 24-28</td>
<td>Paris asks Juliet to confess to Friar Laurence that she loves him, and Juliet carefully avoids denying it. We know that Juliet loves Romeo, not Paris.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. **Recognize Protagonist and Antagonist**  If Romeo and Juliet are the protagonists of this play, who or what is the antagonist? Keep in mind that an antagonist can be a character, a group of characters, a set of circumstances, or even society as a whole. Use details from the play to support your answer.

8. **Evaluate Comic Relief**  The humorous exchange between Peter and the musicians at the end of Act Four is an example of comic relief. It lightens the mood after the grief-filled speeches that follow the discovery of Juliet’s body. If you were producing a stage or film version of *Romeo and Juliet*, would you cut this passage, or do you think it serves an important purpose? Explain.

Literary Criticism

9. **Different Perspectives**  How might older and younger audiences differ in their assessment of Romeo’s and Juliet’s actions? Explain your opinion, citing specific actions and interactions in the play.