SHAKESPEARE "IMITATION" OR "RECITATION"

WILL YOU BE DOING AN IMITATION OR A RECITATION? __________________________

IMITATION FINAL DRAFT DUE __________________________
RECITATION PRESENTATION DATE _______________________

The purpose of this assignment is for you to reinterpret a selection of literature, either by rewriting or reciting the Prologue to *Romeo and Juliet*.

**Imitation Instructions:**
Choose a popular movie or story (e.g. *Shrek*, *The Matrix*, etc.) and write a prologue to it imitating the style and rhyme scheme of Shakespeare's Prologue to *Romeo and Juliet*.

An "A" Prologue will:
- have your first and last name, period, and date in the upper right-hand corner
- have the title of the movie upside down at the bottom of the page
- be neatly written in blue or black ballpoint pen or be typed
- be free of errors in spelling and grammar
- be composed of 14 lines following the rhyme scheme ABABCDEDEFEGG
- introduce the audience to the movie or story without giving specifics like names, etc.
- be creative
- show an understanding of the purpose of the Prologue

A "B" or "C" Prologue will:
- meet the criteria detailed above for an "A" but will be lacking in one or two areas.

**Style Imitation Example:**

One man, considered odd by many
In middle America, where we lay our scene,
Grows up with love and wisdom from his mommy,
Only to meet those who laugh and treat him mean.
From a grade school crush, grows a profound love
But she is busy with the '60s and only offers friendship
From many an adventure, learn, our dear man does
Of the perils of war and the profit of shrimp.
Running across America, he doesn't get lost
Instead he ends up on TV
Thus making and shaping him into one you'll trust
We're sure you'll agree as you watch our movie;
If he sounds interesting from this little blurb
We're sure by the end you'll think him superb.

Forest Gump
Recitation Instructions:

Memorize all fourteen lines of Shakespeare's Act I Prologue to *Romeo and Juliet*. You get two tries on the due date to get an “A,” a “B”, or a “C” (you will get the higher grade of the two tries) or as many tries for the rest of the semester as you need in order to get a “D.”

For an "A" Prologue Recitation you must:

• recite all 14 lines.

For a "B" Prologue Recitation you must:

• recite at least 12 lines.

For a "C" Prologue Recitation you must:

• recite at least 10 lines.

For a "D" Prologue Recitation you must:

• recite at least 8 lines.

Prologue to *Romeo and Juliet*:

*Two households, both alike in dignity,*  
*In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,*  
*From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,*  
*Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.*  
*From forth the fatal loins of these two foes,*  
*A pair of star cross'd lovers take their life;*  
*Whose misadventured piteous overthrows*  
*Doth with their death bury their parents' strife.*  
*The fearful passage of their death-marked love,*  
*And the continuance of their parents' rage,*  
*Which, but their children's end, naught could remove,*  
*Is now the two hour's traffic of our stage;*  
*The which if you with patient ears attend,*  
*What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.*