*Romeo and Juliet* Act III Study Questions

Scene 1 (Climax of the play)—Monday afternoon and night

1. Why does Romeo refuse to fight Tybalt?
2. What reason does Mercutio give for interfering in Romeo and Tybalt’s quarrel?
3. How does Romeo try to stop the fight?
4. Why does Romeo feel responsible for Mercutio’s death?
5. What does Romeo predict for the future after learning of Mercutio’s death?
6. How does this prophecy immediately come true?
7. What is to be Romeo’s punishment for killing Tybalt?
8. Why is he not sentenced to death?

Scene 2

1. What does Juliet conclude about Romeo when she first hears he killed Tybalt?
2. What information about the incident does Juliet not know?
3. What realization does Juliet have about the situation?
4. What event does Juliet say would be preferable to Romeo’s exile?

Scene 3

1. How does Romeo feel about his punishment?
2. How does Friar Laurence feel about Romeo’s punishment?
3. What is Friar Laurence’s plan? How will Romeo get messages?

Scene 4

1. What plans do Juliet’s parents make for her?
2. What does this scene reveal about Juliet’s relationship with her parents?

Scene 5

1. How are the lark and the nightingale used in this scene?
2. What does Romeo say he would risk in order to stay with Juliet?
3. What foreboding does Juliet have as Romeo is climbing down the ladder?
4. What does Lady Capulet threaten to do to the person who killed Tybalt?
5. What day is planned for Juliet’s marriage to Paris?
6. How does Lord Capulet treat Juliet upon hearing her refusal to marry Paris?
7. Where does Juliet seek help since none at home will support her?
8. What time/day is it now?