

Standards Focus: Foreshadowing and Prediction

Act One

In order to build suspense and make a story more interesting, writers often use techniques such as **foreshadowing**, or hints and clues of events to occur later in the plot. When authors give these hints and clues, we can make a **prediction**, or an educated guess as to what will happen next.

Below are several examples of foreshadowing in Act One. *Read the selection from Act One, then predict what you think will happen later in the story, based upon the clues.*

1. Prologue: The Chorus's first speech declaring that a "pair of star-crossed lovers take their life."

Prediction: _____

2. Scene 2: Benvolio tries to talk Romeo out of his love for Rosaline; "Take thou some new infection to thy eye, / And the rank poison of the old will die."

Prediction: _____

3. Scene 4: Romeo worries about whether to go to the party because of his ominous dream; "I fear, too early: for my mind misgives / Some consequence, yet hanging in the stars, / Shall bitterly begin his fearful date."

Prediction: _____

4. Scene 5: Tybalt makes a promise to himself that Romeo will be sorry for showing up at the Capulet party. "I will withdraw, but this intrusion shall / Now seeming sweet convert to bitter gall."

Prediction: _____

5. Scene 5: Juliet sends the Nurse to find out Romeo's status: "If he be married, / My grave is like to be my wedding bed."

Prediction: _____
