Eduqas

English Literature GCSE Exemplar for: Component 1

Contents:

Romeo and Juliet

**SECTION A (SHAKESPEARE)**

**Questions 1-5 *(a)* (extract)**

**GENERIC ASSESSMENT OBJECTIVES GRIDS**

The following descriptions have been provided to indicate the way in which progression within the criteria is likely to occur. Each successive description assumes demonstration of achievements in lower bands.

**AO1 and AO2 are equally weighted in this question.**

**Total 15 marks**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Band** | **AO1:1a+b, AO1:2** | **AO2** |
| **5****13-15****marks** | Candidates:sustain focus on the task, including overview, convey ideas with consistent coherence and use an appropriate register; use a sensitive and evaluative approach to the task and analyse the text critically; show a perceptive understanding of the text, engaging fully, perhaps with some originality in their personal response; their responses include pertinent, direct references from across the text, including quotations. | Candidates:analyse and appreciate writers’ use of language, form and structure; make assured reference to meanings and effects exploring and evaluating the way meaning and ideas are conveyed through language structure and form;use precise subject terminology in an appropriate context. |
| **4****10-12****marks** | Candidates:sustain focus on the task, convey ideas with coherence and use an appropriate register; use a thoughtful approach to the task; show a secure understanding of key aspects of the text, with considerable engagement; support and justify their responses by well-chosen direct reference to the text, including quotations. | Candidates:discuss and increasingly analyse writers’ use of language, form and structure; make thoughtful reference to the meanings and effects of stylistic features used by the writer;use apt subject terminology. |
| **3****7-9 marks** | Candidates:focus on the task, convey ideas with general coherence and use a mostly appropriate register; use a straightforward approach to the task; show an understanding of key aspects of the text, with engagement; support and justify their responses by appropriate direct reference to the text, including quotations. | Candidates:comment on and begin to analyse writers’ use of language, form and structure; make some reference to meanings and effects;use relevant subject terminology. |
| **2****4-6 marks** | Candidates:have some focus on the task, convey ideas with some coherence and sometimes use an appropriate register; use a limited approach to the task; show some understanding of key aspects of the text, with some engagement; support and justify their responses by some direct reference to the text, including some quotations. | Candidates:recognise and make simple comments on writers’ use of language, form and structure; may make limited reference to meanings and effects;may use some relevant subject terminology. |
| **1****1-3 marks** | Candidates:have limited focus on the task, convey ideas with occasional coherence and may sometimes use an appropriate register; use a simple approach to the task; show a basic understanding of some key aspects of the text, with a little engagement; may support and justify their responses by some general reference to the text, perhaps including some quotations. | Candidates:may make generalised comments on writers’ use of language, form and structure; may make basic reference to meanings and effects;may use some subject terminology but not always accurately. |
| **0 marks** | Nothing worthy of credit. | Nothing worthy of credit. |

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**Questions 1-5 *(b****)* **(essay)**

The following descriptions have been provided to indicate the way in which progression within the criteria is likely to occur. Each successive description assumes demonstration of achievements in lower bands.

**AO1 and AO2 are equally weighted in this question.**

This assessment also includes 5 marks for accuracy in spelling, punctuation and the use of vocabulary and sentence structures (AO4). There is a separate assessment grid for AO4.

**Total marks 20+5**

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| **Band** | **AO1:1a+b, AO1:2** | **AO2** |
| **5****17-20****marks** | Candidates:sustain focus on the task, including overview, convey ideas with consistent coherence and use an appropriate register; use a sensitive and evaluative approach to the task and analyse the text critically; show a perceptive understanding of the text, engaging fully, perhaps with some originality in their personal response; their responses include pertinent, direct references from across the text, including quotations. | Candidates:analyse and appreciate writers’ use of language, form and structure; make assured reference to meanings and effects exploring and evaluating the way meaning and ideas are conveyed through language structure and form;use precise subject terminology in an appropriate context. |
| **4****13-16****marks** | Candidates:sustain focus on the task, convey ideas with considerable coherence and use an appropriate register; use a thoughtful approach to the task; show a secure understanding of key aspects of the text, with considerable engagement; support and justify their responses by well-chosen direct reference to the text, including quotations | Candidates:discuss and increasingly analyse writers’ use of language, form and structure; make thoughtful reference to the meanings and effects of stylistic features used by the writer;use apt subject terminology. |
| **3****9-12****marks** | Candidates:focus on the task, convey ideas with general coherence and use a mostly appropriate register; use a straightforward approach to the task; show an understanding of key aspects of the text, with engagement; support and justify their responses by appropriate direct reference to the text, including quotations. | Candidates:comment on and begin to analyse writers’ use of language, form and structure; make some reference to meanings and effects;use relevant subject terminology. |
| **2****5-8 marks** | Candidates:have some focus on the task, convey ideas with some coherence and sometimes use an appropriate register; use a limited approach to the task; show some understanding of key aspects of the text, with some engagement; support and justify their responses by some direct reference to the text, including some quotations. | Candidates:recognise and make simple comments on writers’ use of language, form and structure; may make limited reference to meanings and effects;may use some relevant subject terminology. |
| **1****1-4 marks** | Candidates:have limited focus on the task, convey ideas with occasional coherence and may sometimes use an appropriate register; use a simple approach to the task; show a basic understanding of some key aspects of the text, with a little engagement; may support and justify their responses by some general reference to the text, perhaps including some quotations. | Candidates:may make generalised comments on writers’ use of language, form and structure; may make basic reference to meanings and effects;may use some subject terminology but not always accurately. |
| **0 marks** | Nothing worthy of credit. | Nothing worthy of credit. |

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*GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE Specimen Assessment Materials 6*

# SECTION A (Shakespeare)

*Answer on* ***one*** *text only.*

1. ***Romeo and Juliet***

*Answer* ***both*** *part (a)* ***and*** *part (b).*

*You are advised to spend about 20 minutes on part (a), and about 40 minutes on part (b).*

* 1. Read the extract on the opposite page.

Look at how Juliet and her father speak and behave here. What does it reveal to an audience about their relationship at this point in the play? Refer closely to details from the extract to support your answer. [15]

*\*(b)* ‘Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole.’ Show how Mercutio could be described as important to the play as a whole. [25]

*\*5 of this question’s marks are allocated for accuracy in spelling, punctuation and the use of vocabulary and sentence structures.*

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CAPULET: Soft, take me with you, take me with you, wife.

How will she none? Doth she not give us thanks? Is she not proud? Doth she not count her blest, Unworthy as she is, that we have wrought

So worthy a gentleman to be her bride?

JULIET: Not proud you have, but thankful that you have.

Proud can I never be of what I hate,

But thankful even for hate that is meant love.

CAPULET: How, how! How, how, chop-logic! What is this? “Proud”, and “I thank you”, and “I thank you not”, And yet, “Not proud”, mistress minion you?

Thank me no thankings, nor proud me no prouds, But fettle your fine joints ‘gainst Thursday next, To go with Paris to Saint Peter’s Church,

Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither.

Out, you green-sickness carrion! out, you baggage! You tallow-face.

LADY CAPULET: (*To her husband*) Fie, fie! What, are you mad? JULIET: Good father, I beseech you on my knees,

Hear me with patience but to speak a word.

CAPULET: Hang thee, young baggage! disobedient wretch! I tell thee what: get thee to church o’ Thursday, Or never after look me in the face.

Speak not, reply not, do not answer me.

My fingers itch. Wife, we scarce thought us blest That God had lent us but this only child,

But now I see this one is one too much, And that we have a curse in having her. Out on her, hilding!

**SECTION A (SHAKESPEARE) INDICATIVE CONTENT**

1. ***Romeo and Juliet***
	1. Read the extract on the opposite page.

Look at how Juliet and her father speak and behave here. What does it reveal to an audience about their relationship at this point in the play? Refer closely to details from the extract to support your answer. [15]

***This question assesses AO1 and AO2.***

**Indicative content**

**Responses may include:**

|  |
| --- |
| **AO1*** An overview of how Juliet and her father speak and behave
* Juliet’s feelings and despair, distress and grief
* Capulet’s bewilderment, then increasing anger and impatience
* How their relationship is at its lowest point here
 |
| **AO2*** Shakespeare’s use of language to reveal the relationship
* Comments on the way Capulet’s language changes to abusive name calling and threats
* The dramatic effect of Juliet begging on her knees
* The use of structure, e.g. the way Capulet’s speech dominates the extract and how the use of broken lines suggests their feelings
* The use of exclamatory statements
 |

**This is not a checklist. Please reward valid alternatives.**

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\*(b) ‘Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole.’ Show how Mercutio could be described as important to the play as a whole. [20 + 5]

*\*5 of this question’s marks are allocated for accuracy in spelling, punctuation and the use of vocabulary and sentence structures.*

***This question assesses AO1, AO2 and AO4 (5 additional marks).***

**Indicative content Responses may include:**

|  |
| --- |
| **AO1*** His attitude to love
* His friendship with and loyalty to Romeo
* His wit, imagination and humour, e.g. as show in the Queen Mab speech and in the scene with the Nurse
* His anger towards Tybalt and their subsequent fight
* How his death sets up the rest of the events of the play
* The significance of his dying words
 |
| **AO2*** Comments on Shakespeare’s use of language in the presentation of the character of Mercutio
* The use of imagery in his Queen Mab speech, showing his wit and imagination
* His bawdy teasing of Romeo and the Nurse and how this adds humour to the play
* How his attitudes to love are in contrast with those of Romeo
* How structure is revealed e.g. how his death and dying words change the atmosphere of the play and lead on to its tragic outcome
 |

**This is not a checklist. Please reward valid alternatives. AO4**

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| --- | --- |
| **Level** | **Performance Descriptors** |
| **High Performance****4-5 marks** | In the context of the Level of Demand of the question, Learnersspell and punctuate with consistent accuracy, and consistently use vocabulary and sentence structures to achieve effective control of meaning. |
| **Intermediate Performance****2-3 marks** | In the context of the Level of Demand of the question, Learnersspell and punctuate with considerable accuracy, and use a considerable range of vocabulary and sentence structures to achieve general control of meaning. |
| **Threshold Performance****1 mark** | In the context of the Level of Demand of the question,Learners spell and punctuate with reasonable accuracy, and use a reasonable range of vocabulary and sentence structures; any errors do not hinder meaning in the response. |
| **0 marks** | Candidates do not reach the threshold performance outlined in the performance descriptor above. |

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**Comment [W1]:** In a way, some inference here.

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| **Romeo and Juliet extract question.** |
| **Look at how Juliet and her father speak and behave here. What does it reveal to the audience about their relationship at this point in the play?**In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as aggressive. In the play, Lord Capulet says "or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither." The use of the word "drag" suggests that Lord Capulet is threatening to physically harm Juliet and force her to marry Paris. This is reinforced earlier on in the play by the use of "How, how, chop-logic! What is this?" which suggests that Lord Capulet is shouting at Juliet trying to convince her that she has made the wrong choice and that he is very angry about it. Furthermore, this could also suggest that Lord Capulet has been violent in the past towards Juliet. This links to historical context because in the Elizabethan period women were not treated equally and did not have the same rights as men. This is how Juliet is being treated, she is not getting to pick the man she marries and is being forced into marriage at a very young age. This would make a modern audience feel shocked and angry about how Lord Capulet treats his daughter and how Lady Capulet treats his daughter and how Lady Capulet doesn't do anything about it. I think some people might feel really sorry for Juliet because she is being treated in such a horrible way and no one wants to defend or protect her but herself.In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as disrespectful. In the play Lord Capulet says "Hang thee, young baggage" disobedient wrentch". This suggests that Lord Capulet does not care about Juliet's feelings towards paris. The word "disobedient" suggests that Juliet is expected to follow and obey her father and his rules. This shows how all women are expected to be obedient and controlled by their husbands or fathers and are supposed to do whatever they are told. The use of the word "wrentch" shows how Lord Capulet is use to calling Juliet and other women wrentches and how that is what most women are known as when they disobey orders. This also links to the historical context of the Elizabethan women and how unequally they are treated because men could control their wives and daughters and could call them whatever they like and would get away with it. A modern audience would be shocked at the way Lord Capulet disrespects his own daughter.In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as demanding. In the play Lord Capulet says 'or never look at me in the face'. This suggests that Lord Capulet is not happy with Juliet and doesn't want her to speak to him or even look at him. The use of the word 'face' suggests that Lord Capulet doesn't feel proud of Juliet. As most fathers would think that their daughters are amazing and that their faces are beautiful but Lord Capulet doesn’t.He thinks that even though Juliet is his daughter he doesn't think that she is great or pretty and so he doesn't want her to look at him. Furthermore, the use of the word 'never' shows that Lord Capulet does not care if Juliet is sad or angry but that he never wants her to have anything to do with him unless she is going to follow his orders. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some focus, though comments on context not appropriate here. Straightforward, with some textual support for comments.**AO2:** Simple comments on language and effects.**Overall:** The candidate gives a strong Band 2 response. |

**Comment [W2]:** Valid reference

**Comment [W3]:** Maybe

**Comment [W4]:** Context not needed here, AO3 is not assessed.

**Comment [W5]:** General response

**Comment [W6]:** Bit generalised

**Comment [W7]:** Context not needed

**Comment [W8]:** Not quite the right word

**Comment [W9]:** Some comment on language.

**Comment [W10]:** Simple comment

**Comment [W1]:** In one way

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| **Romeo and Juliet extract question.** |
| **Look at how Juliet and her father speak and behave here. What does it reveal to an audience about their relationship at this point in the play?**In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as aggressive and unrespectful. In the play, Lord Capulet says "out on her hilding". The word 'hilding' suggests Lord Capulet is resembling Juliet like she’s good for nothing and she isn't worthy of anything. This is reinforced earlier in the extract by Lord Capulet when he says, "Or I will drag thee on a hurdle thither" which suggests he is willing to physically hurt her taking out his agrettion on Juliet against her will to marry Paris. Furthermore, this could suggest he doesn't respect anyone elses views unless it is a good outcome for himself. This links to historical context because in the Elizabethan period women were opinionated and the men thought they had all the control over the women giving them power and to demand them what to do. This would make a modern audience feel shocked and angry about how Juliet didn't get say about what she did and now Lord Capulet was willing to hurt Juliet if she didn't do what he asked her to do. This would make a modern audience feel shocked and angry about how Juliet didn't get a say about what she did and how Lord Capulet was willing to hurt Juliet if she didn't do what he asked her to do. This could also make the modern audience feel sorrow for Juliet because by Lord Capulets reaction it could imply he has acted aggressively before to Juliet and the audience could despise how Juliet was treated by Lord Capulet.In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as demanding. In the play Lord Capulet says "hang thee, young baggage disobedient wretch" suggesting Lord Capulet wants Juliet to listen to everything he is saying and for her not to walk away from him. The use of the word 'wretch' suggests Lord Capulet sees Juliet as nothing special and evil like a witch. By Lord Capulet saying 'hang thee' it shows Juliet is being disobedient which is why Lord Capulet doesn't like it. This links to Elizabethan times because women were expected to be obedient when they are told what to do and they wasn't allowed to be independent or ignore orders. This would make a modern audience feel scared for how Juliet is being treated by Lord Capulet and how he expects her to follow his orders without being disobedient. Shakespeare also presents Juliet and Lord Capulet's relationship as unsupportive. In the play Lord Capulet says 'I thank you not'. The word 'not' suggests Lord Capulet is being negative and disagreeing with Juliet. This quote suggests Lord Capulet is not thankful of Juliet for what she has done and is showing that he isn't proud of Juliet and her decisions. This links to Elizabethan Periods as the men were never thankful to their wives, they just used them as sexual fantasies and only know to be good for certain things but they aren't allowed to give their opinion on anything. This would make a modern audience feel upset for Juliet because Lord Capulet isn't respecting her feelings and hes being unsupportive. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Focused (though context not assessed here) and engaged, with some support for points made.**AO2:** Comments on some details of language, though some rather simple.**Overall:** The candidate would receive a mark just into Band 3. |

**Comment [W2]:** Begins to comment on language

**Comment [W3]:** Yes

**Comment [W4]:** Valid inference

**Comment [W5]:** Not needed here; AO3 is not assessed.

**Comment [W6]:** Maybe

**Comment [W7]:** OK

**Comment [W8]:** Sort of

**Comment [W9]:** Maybe

**Comment [W10]:** Simple comment

**Comment [W11]:** Not quite understanding this bit

**Comment [W12]:** Context not needed

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| **Romeo and Juliet extract question.** |
| **Look at how Juliet and her father speak and behave here. What does it reveal to the audience about their relationship at this point in the play?**In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as abusive. In the play, Lord Capulet says 'My fingers itch' suggesting Lord Capulet wants to physically hurt Juliet. The use of the word 'my' suggests that when Lord Capulet loses control he doesn't have control of his emotions so he lashes out to prove his authority. Similarly, earlier in the play Lord Capulet states 'I will drag thee' reinforcing the point. The use of the word 'will' suggests he doesn't want to hurt his daughter but he would if it meant getting his way. This could be linked to historical context, because women were seen as objects instead of people, they did as they were told, but Juliet refuses too.This makes the audience feel happy for Juliet because she is standing up to her father for the first time, yet they'd also feel resentment toward Lord Capulet for threatening his daughter. In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as loveless. In the play Lord Capulet says 'disobedient wretch!'. The use of the word 'disobedient' suggests Lord Capulet is annoyed because Juliet is not complying with his wishes for her to marry Paris. This is reinforced by earlier in the extract when Lord Capulet says 'Doth she not count her blest, unworthy as she is' which suggests he thinks of Juliet as nothing because he's speaking about her so harshly, so belittlingly with her in the room. This is linked to the historical context of the play, because men looked upon women as lesser creatures who didn't matter and who didn't have feelings. The use of this language makes the audience feel sorry for Juliet as she's being treated so poorly, but proud at the same time as she's putting herself out there to disobey her father.In the play, Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as frightful. In the play Juliet says 'Good father I beseech you on my knees' which suggests she's begging him not to get angry and praying that it works. The use of the words 'on my knees' suggests that her father has reacted this way before so she's praying as she know's what's about to happen.Similarly, in the play, she earlier states 'thankful even for hate that is meant love' which suggests she's trying to defy her father, but make sure she tells him she loves him so he won't get angry. This is linked to the plays historical context because women were scared of men. Juliet is not listening to her father so is petrified. This makes the audience image Juliet being punished by her father for the slightest thing, which makes them feel sorry for her.In the play Shakespeare presents the relationship between Juliet and Lord Capulet as distant. In the play Lord Capulet says 'is she not proud? Doth she not count her blest' this suggests that he thinks of her as nothing as he's trying to make her feel worthless by making her feel horrific. The use of the word she suggests he doesn't think highly enough of Juliet to even use her name. It's reinforced by later in the play when Juliet says 'hear me' which suggests her father rarely listens and all she wants is for Lord Capulet to treat her with some compassion. This links to the historical context of the play, because children were raised by mothers or nurses and rarely had anything to do with their fathers. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Mainly focused, and thoughtful at times. Engaged and detailed. Ideas are mostly coherent. Occasional drift into context, which isn’t required here.**AO2:** Some analysis of words and effects. There is an increasingly assured discussion of language, form and structure here.**Overall:** This response would take the candidate into the lower end of Band 4. |

**Comment [W1]:** Selects details to support points

**Comment [W2]:** Bit tenuous

**Comment [W3]:** Not needed, AO3 is not assessed in this question.

**Comment [W4]:** Valid

**Comment [W5]:** Extract….

**Comment [W6]:** Not needed.

**Comment [W7]:** Engaged with the text

**Comment [W8]:** Maybe

**Comment [W9]:** Thoughtful

**Comment [W10]:** Engaged

**Comment [W11]:** ?

**Comment [W12]:** Good point

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| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be shown to be important to the play as a whole.**Mercutio was important to the play because was realistic. By this I mean that he didn't believe in 'Fate' or 'destiny', he believed that you find the right person after time. Romeo thinks that him and Juliet were destined to be together and it was love at first sight. Because of this, Mercutio mocks and teases Romeo about him and Juliet. This is important in the play because everyone believed they were destined to be together. where as Mercutio knew how love actually worked and evolved making him more realistic than the others. Even though Mercutio teased and mocked Romeo about his relationship, Mercutio takes a bullet and dies for Romeo, showing that, just because he made fun of him, doesn't mean he dosen't care. This happened in Act 3 when a fight broke out between the Capulets and Montagues. This resulted in Tybalt (Juliet's Cousin) having a showdown with Romeo.However when Tybalt was about to shoot Romeo, his best friend Mercutio, stepped in and took his place, suggesting that Mercutio was a very loyal and dedicated best friend towards Romeo. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some focus and awareness, but a bit underdeveloped and general.**AO2:** No reference to language, structure or form.**AO4:** 2-3/5**Overall:** Although this is mainly narrative there is some awareness of the task and the text. It would receive a mark just into Band 2. |

**Comment [W1]:** Proof? **Comment [W2]:** e.g.? **Comment [W3]:** ?

**Comment [W4]:** Evidence?

**Comment [W5]:** i.e.?

**Comment [W6]:** Film not the play.

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| --- |
| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be shown to be important to the play as a whole.**Mercutio is best friends with Romeo, they have known each other for such a long time that they know everything about one another. Mercutio, is is the complete opposite to Romeo because Romeo believes in love, however Mercutio doesn't, he feels that love is pointless and only believes in sex. Also, Mercutio is the type of guy that is in your face, constantly taking the mick out Romeo and all the surrounding friends. He is ribbing Romeo because he has fallen in love with a girl who he just met.In the play, Mercutio is Romeo's closest friend, if Romeo was ever in trouble he would be there by his side to ensure that he didn't get hurt. From the scene where Tybalt and Romeo fall out, Mercutio shows his true colours and how much he cares about Romeo. At this point Mercutio says that he will fight Tybalt so that Romeo doesn't get hurt.Mercutio and Tybalt joule whilst Romeo tries talk him out of it because someone will end up getting hurt. The joule went on for while when all of a sudden Tybalt somehow gashes Mercutio and is fatally wounded. Romeo runs over to his best friend who has been left for dead by Tybalt. In revenge later on in the play Romeo kills Tybalt for killing his best friend and then gets told that he is to be exiled for what he has done. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some general reference to the play and Mercutio's role. No real reference to his 'importance'.**AO2:** No reference to or comments on language.**AO4:** 2/5**Overall:** Although mainly narrative, this response does show an emerging focus on the task and some engagement with the text. It would receive a mid-Band 2 mark. |

**Comment [W1]:** General

**Comment [W2]:** Proof?

**Comment [W3]:** General reference- lacks detail

**Comment [W4]:** General reference to incident

**Comment [W5]:** Still general

**Comment [W1]:** Clear focus

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| --- |
| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be import to the play as a whole.**Mercutio is shown to be important in the play as he is Romeo's most loyal friend, he gives his life to protect him. Although he is a good friend to Romeo, he usually makes fun of him. For example, in Act 1, Scene 4 Romeo tells him about a troubling dream and Mercutio just mocks him, talking about how it was just Lady Mab coming into his dream and giving him strange fantasies. He is the opposite to Romeo who idealised love were Mercutio just wants sex.Moreover, he's also important to the play and to Romeo because in Act 3 scene 1 he dies protecting Romeo. Romeo then gets revenge and kills Tybalt because he killed his best friend. Mercutio sacrifices himself so Romeo could live, this causes Romeo to owe him his life but that isn't that long. I feel that Romeo didn't only take his own life, because he lost Juliet but also because the guilt on Mercutios death was getting too much for Romeo.Furthermore, in act 2 scene 1 Romeo hides from his friends and apart from Mercutio they're concerned. Mercutio however, continues to mock him. He calls out asking him to come out, but he also mocks him asking him if he hiding from his friends of from love. It's only later you realise he may have been hiding from both, because Mercutio loved Romeo enough to die for him and Romeo risked death to settle the score with Tybalt. They loved eachother like brothers and even death didn't change that.In Act 2 scene 4 he is told about Romeo being challenged to fight Tybalt and he was petrified for him. He takes Tybalt on saying how it would be the fight of a lifetime. I don’t know if he meant it literally but he did end up dying. Mercutio loved Romeo, but Romeo didn't love Mercutio enough to tell him about the wedding. If they were such good friends, then surely Romeo could have trusted him enough to tell him about Juliet. Even if she was a Capulet.Also, he continues to be important in the play because he isn't forgotten. His character was witty and funny. He was the nicest character. Juliet only was thinking about herself when she pretended to be dead, where as Mercutio actually died. Moreover, she kills herself because she killed her love, whereas Romeo hilled himself because he thought he'd lost another love, he now felt like he had three deaths upon his shoulders. However, I don't feel like Romeo felt as if her death was his fault, but he knew Mercutio's and Tybalt's were.Furthermore, he was also important, because although he wasn't a main character he was the most likeable and the most memorable. This is why I feel Mercutio is important in the play. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Very engaged discussion, with some relevant references and a strong personal response.**AO2:** No specific references to 'how' / use of language, etc. However there is some implicit reference to language and its effects.**AO4:** 3/5**Overall:** The candidate has a clear focus on the task; AO1 is much stronger than AO2 here. Overall the candidate would receive a mark in mid Band 3. |

**Comment [W2]:** Reference to text

**Comment [W3]:** Nearly!

**Comment [W4]:** Engaged discussion, with some detail.

**Comment [W5]:** Yes

**Comment [W6]:** Could explain in more detail

**Comment [W7]:** Speculates - engaged

**Comment [W8]:** Reference

**Comment [W9]:** Some discussion

**Comment [W10]:** Very engaged personal response

**Comment [W11]:** ?

**Comment [W12]:** ?

**Comment [W13]:** Maybe

**Comment [W14]:** Some loss of focus here

**Comment [W1]:** Clear focus

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| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be shown to be important to the play as a whole.**Mercutio is the most outspoken, opinionated and witty character, making him stand out as being the complete opposite to the majority of other characters in the play. At the beginning of the play Mercutio is introduced as a close friend of Romeo's. He gives Romeo advice about women which Romeo doesn't necessarily take as they have different views/beliefs.Mercutio is lively and loud, he seems the sort of person to be a party animal and popular among peers, however in serious situations he shows loyalty and dedication. This is shown when Romeo is challenged to a duel by Tybalt. Mercutio, as Romeo's close friend, recognises Romeo would be in danger should he fight Tybalt as he isn't as strong nor experienced at fighting. Selflessly, Mercutio takes the place of Romeo and defends him by fighting Tybalt himself. This shows a profound level of loyalty and commitment he has, as he dies protecting his best friend in hope he will get to live the happy life he deserves. This links to the theme of love and commitment which run though the play as it shows the lengths to which people will go to protect the ones they love and also know no matter what difficulties are in their way, the characters will find a way to get round it in order for them to be together.I believe that what happens to Mercutio sticks with Romeo throughout the play as he seems very aware that the threats made towards him for being with / going to see Juliet are very much real and he is in danger. I think Mercutio's outlandish and outspoken behaviour somewhat inspires Romeo to get what he wants (which in this case is Juliet) and not let other people stop him. I think Romeo also obides by the rules less as he has seen what happened to his best friend and feels there is no time to waste as you never know how long you've got left.Mercutio is an inspiring character as around the Elizabethan era, people generally did what they were told and got on with it whereas Mercutio wouldn't change his beliefs or the way he spoke/acted for anyone. He was very confident and more like someone from the modern time. I think Mercutio would have been someone other characters may have looked up to as they would have liked to have felt able to express their own true feelings and opinions and have a choice in the things they do, however this would have been seen as unruly and wrong at that time as people, especially women did what they were told and didn't express their true opinions.Perhaps Mercutio was a character who would have given people of that era hope that one day it will be seen as normal / acceptable to make your own choices and have your way in a big decision such as the person you shall marry.Another idea is Romeo could have been influenced by Mercutio and felt it only right to be happy with Juliet despite all of the costs after Mercutio's death so he could do something the way he did / would have done, in his honour.Mercutio was very clever and quick witted. however due to his jokey personality people could have underestimated him. I believe this strongly links to the way Romeo is undermined for just being a Montague and not the strong, loyal person he really is who will go to any length to ensure he gets what he longs for, despite the cost.I feel Mercutio strongly influences the play even after his death, not only for his personality but the way he died defending a friend he loved dearly. I think his death puts things into perspective, that life doesn't last forever and you have to hold on to what you want however hard. I believe this is a |

**Comment [W2]:** Reference

**Comment [W3]:** Apt reference

**Comment [W4]:** Thoughtful

**Comment [W5]:** Engaged

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**Comment [W7]:** e.g.?

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**Comment [W9]:** Context not assessed here

**Comment [W10]:** Engaged response

**Comment [W11]:** Getting a bit general here

**Comment [W12]:** Focus

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**Comment [W14]:** Repeats

**Comment [W15]:** Proof? **Comment [W16]:** Maybe **Comment [W17]:** Proof?

**Comment [W18]:** Engaged

**Comment [W19]:** Interesting point

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| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some promising ideas, although not all are developed, and there's some loss of focus. Engaged discussion.**AO2:** Missed opportunities to look at use of language etc.**AO4:** 4/5**Overall:** This is let down somewhat by the lack of focus on AO2. It would receive a mark in mid Band 3. |

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| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be shown to be important to the play as a whole.**Mercutio was important to the play because was realistic. By this I mean that he didn't believe in 'Fate' or 'destiny', he believed that you find the right person after time. Romeo thinks that him and Juliet were destined to be together and it was love at first sight. Because of this, Mercutio mocks and teases Romeo about him and Juliet. This is important in the play because everyone believed they were destined to be together. where as Mercutio knew how love actually worked and evolved making him more realistic than the others. Even though Mercutio teased and mocked Romeo about his relationship, Mercutio takes a bullet and dies for Romeo, showing that, just because he made fun of him, doesn't mean he dosen't care. This happened in Act 3 when a fight broke out between the Capulets and Montagues. This resulted in Tybalt (Juliet's Cousin) having a showdown with Romeo.However when Tybalt was about to shoot Romeo, his best friend Mercutio, stepped in and took his place, suggesting that Mercutio was a very loyal and dedicated best friend towards Romeo. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some focus and awareness, but a bit underdeveloped and general.**AO2:** No reference to language, structure or form.**AO4:** 2-3/5**Overall:** Although this is mainly narrative there is some awareness of the task and the text. It would receive a mark just into Band 2. |

**Comment [W1]:** Proof? **Comment [W2]:** e.g.? **Comment [W3]:** ?

**Comment [W4]:** Evidence?

**Comment [W5]:** i.e.?

**Comment [W6]:** Film not the play.

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| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be shown to be important to the play as a whole.**Mercutio is best friends with Romeo, they have known each other for such a long time that they know everything about one another. Mercutio, is is the complete opposite to Romeo because Romeo believes in love, however Mercutio doesn't, he feels that love is pointless and only believes in sex. Also, Mercutio is the type of guy that is in your face, constantly taking the mick out Romeo and all the surrounding friends. He is ribbing Romeo because he has fallen in love with a girl who he just met.In the play, Mercutio is Romeo's closest friend, if Romeo was ever in trouble he would be there by his side to ensure that he didn't get hurt. From the scene where Tybalt and Romeo fall out, Mercutio shows his true colours and how much he cares about Romeo. At this point Mercutio says that he will fight Tybalt so that Romeo doesn't get hurt.Mercutio and Tybalt joule whilst Romeo tries talk him out of it because someone will end up getting hurt. The joule went on for while when all of a sudden Tybalt somehow gashes Mercutio and is fatally wounded. Romeo runs over to his best friend who has been left for dead by Tybalt. In revenge later on in the play Romeo kills Tybalt for killing his best friend and then gets told that he is to be exiled for what he has done. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Some general reference to the play and Mercutio's role. No real reference to his 'importance'.**AO2:** No reference to or comments on language.**AO4:** 2/5**Overall:** Although mainly narrative, this response does show an emerging focus on the task and some engagement with the text. It would receive a mid-Band 2 mark. |

**Comment [W1]:** General

**Comment [W2]:** Proof?

**Comment [W3]:** General reference- lacks detail

**Comment [W4]:** General reference to incident

**Comment [W5]:** Still general

**Comment [W1]:** Clear focus

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| **Romeo and Juliet essay question.** |
| **Even though Mercutio dies at the beginning of Act 3, he is very important to the play as a whole. Show how Mercutio could be import to the play as a whole.**Mercutio is shown to be important in the play as he is Romeo's most loyal friend, he gives his life to protect him. Although he is a good friend to Romeo, he usually makes fun of him. For example, in Act 1, Scene 4 Romeo tells him about a troubling dream and Mercutio just mocks him, talking about how it was just Lady Mab coming into his dream and giving him strange fantasies. He is the opposite to Romeo who idealised love were Mercutio just wants sex.Moreover, he's also important to the play and to Romeo because in Act 3 scene 1 he dies protecting Romeo. Romeo then gets revenge and kills Tybalt because he killed his best friend. Mercutio sacrifices himself so Romeo could live, this causes Romeo to owe him his life but that isn't that long. I feel that Romeo didn't only take his own life, because he lost Juliet but also because the guilt on Mercutios death was getting too much for Romeo.Furthermore, in act 2 scene 1 Romeo hides from his friends and apart from Mercutio they're concerned. Mercutio however, continues to mock him. He calls out asking him to come out, but he also mocks him asking him if he hiding from his friends of from love. It's only later you realise he may have been hiding from both, because Mercutio loved Romeo enough to die for him and Romeo risked death to settle the score with Tybalt. They loved eachother like brothers and even death didn't change that.In Act 2 scene 4 he is told about Romeo being challenged to fight Tybalt and he was petrified for him. He takes Tybalt on saying how it would be the fight of a lifetime. I don’t know if he meant it literally but he did end up dying. Mercutio loved Romeo, but Romeo didn't love Mercutio enough to tell him about the wedding. If they were such good friends, then surely Romeo could have trusted him enough to tell him about Juliet. Even if she was a Capulet.Also, he continues to be important in the play because he isn't forgotten. His character was witty and funny. He was the nicest character. Juliet only was thinking about herself when she pretended to be dead, where as Mercutio actually died. Moreover, she kills herself because she killed her love, whereas Romeo hilled himself because he thought he'd lost another love, he now felt like he had three deaths upon his shoulders. However, I don't feel like Romeo felt as if her death was his fault, but he knew Mercutio's and Tybalt's were.Furthermore, he was also important, because although he wasn't a main character he was the most likeable and the most memorable. This is why I feel Mercutio is important in the play. |
| **Examiner's Comment:****AO1:** Very engaged discussion, with some relevant references and a strong personal response.**AO2:** No specific references to 'how' / use of language, etc. However there is some implicit reference to language and its effects.**AO4:** 3/5**Overall:** The candidate has a clear focus on the task; AO1 is much stronger than AO2 here. Overall the candidate would receive a mark in mid Band 3. |

**Comment [W2]:** Reference to text

**Comment [W3]:** Nearly!

**Comment [W4]:** Engaged discussion, with some detail.

**Comment [W5]:** Yes

**Comment [W6]:** Could explain in more detail

**Comment [W7]:** Speculates - engaged

**Comment [W8]:** Reference

**Comment [W9]:** Some discussion

**Comment [W10]:** Very engaged personal response

**Comment [W11]:** ?

**Comment [W12]:** ?

**Comment [W13]:** Maybe

**Comment [W14]:** Some loss of focus here

**Comment [W1]:** Clear focus

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