

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_

# VOCABULARY - *Romeo and Juliet*

## Act I Part I: Using Prior Knowledge and Contextual Clues

Below are the sentences in which the vocabulary words appear in the text. Read the sentence. Use any clues you can find in the sentence combined with your prior knowledge, and write what you think the underlined words mean in the space provided.

*What words help you  
determine the definition?*

*Your best guess at the definition  
of the underlined word.*

Profaners of this neighbor-stained steel -/Will they not hear? What ho! You men, you beasts,		
That quench the fire of your <u>pernicious</u> rage/With purple fountains issuing from your veins,	Rage, fire, purple veins	A very intense, perhaps even deadly level of anger; evil.
With tears <u>augmenting</u> the fresh morning's dew,/Adding to clouds more clouds with his deep sighs.		
Black and <u>portentous</u> must this humor prove/Unless good counsel my the cause remove.		
Why, such is love's <u>transgression</u> ,/Griefs of mine own lie heavy in my breast,/which thou wilt prorogate, to have it pressed		
Cuts beauty off from all <u>posterity</u> /She is too fair, too wise, wisely too fair		
One desperate grief cures with another's <u>languish</u> .		
Transparent <u>heretics</u> , be burned for liars!		
Here in Verona, ladies of <u>esteem</u> /Are made already mother.		
And what <u>obscured</u> in this fair volume lies/Find written in the margent of his eyes.		

Too rude, too <u>boisterous</u> and it pricks like thorn.		
On the forefinger of an <u>alderman</u> ,/Drawn with a team of little atomies/ Athwart men's noses as they lie asleep-		
Then dreams he of another <u>benefice</u> /Sometime she driveth o'er a soldier's neck,		
Thus from my lips by thine my sin is <u>purged</u> .		
Too early seen unknown, and known too late!/That I must love a <u>loathed</u> enemy.		

## Part II: Determining the Meaning

You have tried to figure out the meanings of the vocabulary words for Act I. Now match the vocabulary words to their dictionary definitions. If there are words for which you cannot figure out the definition by contextual clues and by process of elimination, look them up in a dictionary.

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|----------------------|--|
| ___ 1. profaners     | A. future generations                                |
| ___ 2. pernicious    | B. to dislike (someone or something) greatly         |
| ___ 3. augmenting    | C. foreboding  |
| ___ 4. portentous    | D. to free from impurities                           |
| ___ 5. transgression | E. a member of the municipal legislative body        |
| ___ 6. posterity     | F. indistinctly heard; faint                         |
| ___ 7. languish      | G. evil; wicked                                      |
| ___ 8. heretics      | H. a church office endowed with fixed capital assets |
| ___ 9. esteem        | I. to become weak or feeble                          |
| ___ 10. obscured     | J. a violation of a law, command or duty             |
| ___ 11. boisterous   | K. those who have irreverence for what is sacred     |
| ___ 12. alderman     | L. regard with respect                               |
| ___ 13. benefice     | M. rough and stormy; violent                         |
| ___ 14. purged       | N. a person who holds controversial opinions         |
| ___ 15. loathed      | O. to make (something already developed) greater     |