

SAT Vocabulary Study
Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare

Note: The words, definitions, and quotations in the first section are given in order as they appear in the play. Some words chosen from the play are not the same parts of speech as the SAT vocabulary words. In these cases, a second definition is given and the part of speech is indicated before the quotation.

Act I

accord	pernicious
covert	portent
disparagement	profane
galling	virtuous
partisan	wanton

1. **partisan** (PART ti zen) *n.* A weapon having a blade with lateral projections mounted on the end of a long shaft, used chiefly in the 16th and 17th centuries; one who exhibits extreme or possible blind allegiance to a group

derivatives: partisanship, partisans

Act I, scene i

“Clubs, bills, and **partisans**! Strike! beat them down!”

2. **pernicious** (pur NISH us) *adj.* very destructive or harmful, deadly, baneful, detrimental

derivatives: perniciously, perniciousness

Act I, scene i

“What, ho! you men, you beasts,
That quench the fire of your **pernicious** rage
With purple fountains issuing from your veins!”

3. **covert** (KUV urt, KO vurt) *n.* secret, concealed, clandestine, furtive, stealthy

derivatives: covertly, covertness

Act I, scene i

“Towards him I made; but he was ware of me
And stole into the **covert** of the wood.”

4. **portent** (PORE tent) *n.* a sign or forewarning; omen, warning; **portentous** *adj.* momentous, having great significance

derivatives: portentous, portentously, portentousness

Act I, scene i (adj.)

“Black and **portentous** must this humour prove
Unless good counsel may the cause remove.”

5. **galling** (GAUL ing) *adj.* very irritating, vexing, bitter; **gall** *n.* bile, an irritant, impudence, something bitter

derivatives: gall, galled, gallingly

Act I, scene i (n.)

“What is it else? A madness most discreet,
A choking **gall**, and a preserving sweet.”

6. **accord** (uh KORD) *n.* agreement, state of harmony, concur; **according** *adj.* harmonious, agreeable

derivatives: accordable, accordance, according

Act I, scene ii (adj.)

“An she agree, within her scope of choice
Lies my consent and fair **according** voice.”

7. **wanton** (WAHN tun) *adj.* immoral, lewd, licentious; **wanton** *n.* someone who is immoral or lewd

derivatives: wantonly, wantonness, wantons

Act I, scene iv (n.)

“Let **wantons** light of heart
Tickle the senseless rushes with their heels;
For I am proverb'd with a grandsire phrase,
I'll be a candle-holder and look on;
The game was ne'er so fair, and I am done.”

8. **virtuous** (VIR choo us) *adj.* having excellent morals, righteous, ethical, noble

derivatives: virtuously, virtuousness, virtue

Act I, scene v

“He bears him like a portly gentleman,
And, to say truth, Verona brags of him
To be a **virtuous** and well-govern'd youth.”

9. **disparage** (deh SPAR ij) *v.* to degrade, to speak of someone or something in a derogatory manner, to belittle; **disparagement** *n.* the act of disparaging, something that casts a bad light

derivatives: disparagement, disparager, disparagingly

Act I, scene v (n.)

“I would not for the wealth of all this town
Here in my house do him **disparagement**.”

10. **profane** (pruh FANE) *v.* showing contempt toward sacred things; to violate, desecrate or defame

derivatives: profanely, profaner, profanity

Act I, scene v

“If I **profane** with my unworhiest hand
This holy shrine, the gentle fine is this:
My lips, two blushing pilgrims, ready stand
To smooth that rough touch with a tender kiss.”

Act II

air
baleful
chide
entreaty
forsake

idolatry
intercede
rancor
repose
utter

1. **entreaty** (en TREE tee) *n.* a plea, an earnest request, appeal; **entreat** *v.* the act of appealing or earnestly requesting

derivatives: entreats, entreated, entreatingly

Act II, scene ii (v.)

“Two of the fairest stars in all the heaven,
Having some business, do **entreat** her eyes
To twinkle in their spheres till they return.”

2. **utter** (UT ur) *v.* to express by speaking, to speak, emit, pronounce; **utterance** *n.* something spoken or pronounced

derivatives: uttered, uttering

Act II, scene ii (n.)

“My ears have yet not drunk a hundred words
Of that tongue's **utterance**, yet I know the sound.”

3. **idolatry** (eye DOLL uh tree) *n.* worship of idols, excessive devotion, obsession, mania

derivatives: idolatrous, idolater

Act II, scene ii

“Do not swear at all;
Or if thou wilt, swear by thy gracious self,
Which is the god of my **idolatry**,
And I'll believe thee.”

4. **repose** (reh POSE) *v.* to lie or to be at rest; **repose** *n.* the state of being at rest, absence of movement, calm, peacefulness

derivatives: reposed, reposing, reposeful

Act II, scene ii (n.)

“As sweet **repose** and rest
Come to thy heart as that within my breast!”

5. **air** (AIR) *v.* to make a public utterance, to verbalize or speak; **airy** *adj.* something that verbalizes or speaks

derivatives: airs, airing, aired

Act II, scene ii (adj.)

“Bondage is hoarse and may not speak aloud;
Else would I tear the cave where Echo lies,
And make her **airy** tongue more hoarse than mine
With repetition of my Romeo's name.”

6. **baleful** (BALE ful) *adj.* destructive, deadly, malign, sinister, harmful

derivatives: bale, balefully, balefulness

Act II, scene iii

“Non, ere the sun advance his burning eye
The day to cheer and night's dank dew to dry,
I must up-fill this osier cage of ours
With **baleful** weeds and precious-juiced flowers.”

7. **intercede** (in ter SEDE) *v.* to intervene and to act as a mediator, to arbitrate or interpose; **intercession** *n.* the act of intervening or mediating

derivatives: interceder, intercessor, intercessory

Act II, scene ii (n.)

“I bear no hatred, blessed man, for, lo,
My **intercession** likewise steads my foe.”

8. **forsake** (for SAKE) *v.* to quit or to leave entirely, to depart or to withdraw from; leave, desert, abandon; **forsaken** *adj.* something that has been deserted or abandoned

derivatives: forsakes, forsaking, forsakenly

Act II, scene ii (adj.)

“Holy Saint Francis! What a change is here!
Is Rosaline, that thou didst love so dear,
So soon **forsaken**?”

9. **chide** (CHIDE) *v.* to voice disapproval, to scold, admonish, chasten, chastise

derivatives: chided, chiding, chider

Act II, scene ii

“I pray thee **chide** not.”

10. **rancor** (RANG kur) *n.* bitter deep-seated ill will, enmity, animosity, or antagonism

derivatives: rancored, rancorous, rancorously

Act II, scene ii

“In one respect I'll thy assistant be;
For this alliance may so happy prove
To turn your households' **rancor** to pure love.”

Act III

ascend
beguile
calamity
dexterous
discord

dissemble
feint
perjury
submissive
vexation

1. **discord** (DIS kord) *n.* lack of agreement, tension, strife, contention, dissension

derivatives: discordance, discordant, discordantly

Act III, scene i

“An thou make
minstrels of us, look to hear nothing but **discords**.”

2. **submissive** (sub MIS iv) *adj.* yielding or surrendering oneself to the will of another; pliant, compliant, amenable, obedient; **submission** *n.* an act or instance of submitting, yielding, or surrendering

derivatives: submission, submissively, submissiveness

Act III, scene i (n.)

“O calm, dishonourable, vile **submission!**”

3. **feint** (FAYNT) *n.* a false appearance, a fake punch to occupy defenses allowing a real blow, a trick; **feign** *v.* to give a false appearance, to throw a fake punch

derivatives: feigns, feigned, feigning

Act III, scene i (v.)

“...But old folks, many **feign** as they were dead—
Unwieldy, slow, heavy and pale as lead.”

4. **dexterous** (DEK struss) *adj.* skillful and active with the hands; manually skillful, handy; **dexterity** *n.* skill or cleverness in using the hands or body
derivatives: dexterously, dexterousness

Act III, scene i (n.)

“All this—uttered
With gentle breath, calm look, knees humbly bow'd—
Could not take truce with the unruly spleen
Of Tybalt deaf to peace, but that he tilts
With piercing steel at bold Mercutio's breast;
Who, all as hot, turns deadly point to point,
And, with a martial scorn, with one hand beats
Cold death aside and with the other sends
It back to Tybalt, whose **dexterity**
Retorts it.”

5. **dissemble** (deh SEM bul) *v.* to disguise, pretend, to disguise the truth, give a false appearance, feign; **dissembler** *n.* someone who disguises or hides the truth

derivatives: dissembled, dissembling

Act III, scene ii (n.)

“There's no trust,
No faith, no honesty in men; all perjur'd,
All forsworn, all naught, all **dissemblers.**”

6. **beguile** (buh GUYL) *v.* to deceive, to mislead, to persuade with charm, to delude

derivatives: beguiled, beguiling, beguiler

Act III, scene ii

“Poor ropes, you are **beguil'd**,
Both you and I, for Romeo is exil'd.”

7. **calamity** (kuh LAM uh tee) *n.* a serious event causing distress or misfortune; cataclysm, catastrophe

derivatives: calamitous, calamitousness

Act III, scene iii

“Affliction is enanmour'd of thy parts,
And thou art wedded to **calamity.**”

8. **perjury** (PUR juh ree) *n.* false testimony under oath, bearing false witness, lying under oath

derivatives: perjure, perjured, perjurer

Act III, scene iii

“Thy noble shape is but a form of wax
Digressing from the valour of a man;
Thy dear love sworn but hollow **perjury**...”

9. **ascend** (uh SEND) *v.* to move upward, to rise from a lower station, climb, advance

derivatives: ascension, ascending, ascended

Act III, scene iii

“Go get thee to thy love, as was decreed,
Ascend her chamber, hence and comfort her.”

10. **vexation** (vek SAY shun) *n.* discomfort or distress; annoyance, nuisance, irritation; **vex** *v.* to discomfort, annoy or irritate

derivatives: vexed, vexatious

Act III, scene v (v.)

“Indeed I never shall be satisfied
With Romeo till I behold him—dead—
Is my poor heart so for a kinsman **vex'd**.”

Act IV

dirge
inundate
lament
melancholy
pensive

prostration
resolute
stark
supple
treachery

1. **inundate** (IN un date) *v.* to cover with water, to flood, to overflow, to overwhelm; **inundation** *n.* an overflow, a flood

derivatives: inundates, inundated, inundate

Act IV, scene i (n.)

“Now, sir, her father counts it dangerous
That she do give her sorrow so much sway,
And in his wisdom hastes our marriage
To stop the **inundation** of her tears . . .”

2. **pensive** (PEN siv) *adj.* deeply thoughtful, meditative, reflective

derivatives: pensively, pensiveness

Act IV, scene i

“My leisure serves me, **pensive** daughter, now.”

3. **resolute** (REZ uh loot) *adj.* characterized by a decided purpose, staunch, steadfast, determined; **resolution** *n.* a formal expression of opinion or intention

derivatives: resolutely, resoluteness

Act IV, scene i (n.)

“If in thy wisdom thou canst give no help,
Do thou but call my **resolution** wise
And with this knife I'll help it presently.”

4. **treachery** (TRECH uh ree) *n.* violation of faith; betrayal of trust, treason, disloyalty; **treacherous** *adj.* faithless, disloyal, treasonous

derivatives: treacherously, treacherousness

Act IV, scene i (adj.)

“God join'd my heart and Romeo's, thou our hands;
And ere this hand, by thee to Romeo's seal'd,
Shall be the label to another deed,
Or my true heart with **treacherous** revolt
Turn to another, this shall slay them both.”

5. **supple** (SUP ul) *adj.* easily bent, elastic, pliable, resilient

derivatives: suppler, supplest

Act IV, scene i

“Take thou this vial, being then in bed,
And this distilled liquor drink thou off . . .”
To paly ashes, thy eyes' windows fall
Like death when he shuts up the day of life;
Each part, depriv'd of **supple** government . . .”

6. **stark** (STARK) *adj.* harsh, grim or desolate, extremely simple or severe, dreary

derivatives: starkly, starkness

Act IV, scene i (continued from last quotation)

“ . . . Shall, stiff and **stark** and cold, appear like death;
And in this borrowed likeness of shrunk death
Thou shalt continue two-and-forty hours,
And then awake as from a pleasant sleep.”

7. **prostration** (pros TRAY shun) *n.* a stretching out due to lacking vitality and being completely overcome; **prostrate** *adj.* completely overcome, falling down in submission

derivatives: prostrated, prostrates, prostrating

Act IV, scene ii

“ . . . To you and your behests, and am enjoin'd
By holy Lawrence to fall **prostrate** here
To beg your pardon.”

8. **lament** (luh MENT) *v.* to mourn or to express sorrow in a demonstrative manner, to bemoan, to bewail; **lamentable** *adj.* mournful or sorrowful

derivatives: laments, lamented, lamenting

Act IV, scene v (adj.)

“O **lamentable** day!”

9. **melancholy** (MEL un kol ee) *adj.* depression of spirits, soberly thoughtful, pensive, despondent

derivatives: melancholia, melancholic

Act IV, scene v

“All things that we ordained festival
Turn from their office to black funeral—
Our instruments to **melancholy** bells...”

10. **dirge** (DURJ) *n.* funeral hymn, lament, a slow mournful musical composition

derivatives: dirgeful, dirges

Act IV, scene v (continued from last quotation)

“ . . . Our wedding cheer to a sad burial feast;
Our solemn hymns to sullen **dirges** change;
Our bridal flowers serve for a buried corse;
And all things change them to the contrary.”

Act V

cordial
dispatch
engrossed
inauspicious
interred

penury
peruse
presage
rigor
thwart

1. **presage** (PRES ij) *n.* something that foreshadows a future event, foreknowledge of the future; *v.* to predict, to foreshadow

derivatives: presaged, presager, presaging

Act I, scene i (v.)

“If I may trust the flattering truth of sleep
My dreams **presage** some joyful news at hand.”

2. **penury** (PEN yuh ree) *n.* extreme poverty, destitution, indigence, want

derivatives: penurious, penuriously, penuriousness

Act I, scene i

“Noting this **penury**, to myself I said,
An if a man did need a poison now
Whose sale is present death in Mantua,
Here lives a caitiff wretch would sell it him.”

3. **dispatch** (deh SPATCH) *v.* to send away with promptness or speed; quickness, haste, expediency

derivatives: dispatched, dispatching, dispatches

Act V, scene i

“Put this in any liquid thing you will
And drink it off, and if you had the strength
Of twenty men, it would **dispatch** you straight.”

4. **cordial** (KOR jul) *adj.* courteous and gracious, friendly; *n.* strong, sweetened aromatic medicine, liqueur

derivatives: cordially, cordialness, cordiality

Act V, scene i (n.)

“Come, **cordial** and not poison, go with me
To Juliet's grave; for there must I use thee.”

5. **peruse** (puh ROOZ) *v.* to read or to examine, to read with thoroughness or care, to observe carefully

derivatives: perusal, perused, perusing

Act V, scene iii

“In faith, I will. Let me **peruse** this face.”

6. **interred** (in TURD) *v.* placed in a grave or tomb, buried, buried hastily

derivatives: inters, inter, interment

Act V, scene iii

“Death, lie thou there, by a dead man **interr'd**.”

7. **inauspicious** (in ah SPISH us) *adj.* unfavorable, unfortunate, ill predictions, ill omen, contrary to your welfare

derivative: inauspiciously

Act V, scene iii

“O, here
Will I set up my everlasting rest
And shake the yoke of **inauspicious** stars
From this world-wearied flesh.”

8. **engrossing** (en GROSD) *adj.* something that completely occupies or absorbs, preoccupies

derivatives: engross, engrossed, engrossingly

Act V, scene iii

“Arms, take your last embrace! and, lips, O you
The doors of breath, seal with a righteous kiss
A dateless bargain to **engrossing** death!”

9. **thwart** (THWART) *v.* to effectively oppose or stop, to prevent the occurrence of, to frustrate, baffle, foil

derivatives: thwarted, thwarter, thwarting

Act V, scene iii

“Lady, come from that nest
Of death, contagion, and unnatural sleep.
A greater power than we can contradict
Hath **thwarted** our intents.”

10. **rigor** (RIG ur) *n.* strictness, severity, or harshness in dealing with people, full severity of the law

derivatives: rigorist, rigorous, rigorously

Act V, scene iii

“All this I know, and to the marriage
Her nurse is privy; and if aught in this
Miscarried by my fault, let my old life
Be sacrific'd, some hour before his time,
Unto the **rigor** of severest law.”

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
Romeo and Juliet

Using the SAT words below, fill in the blanks with suitable vocabulary choices. Each word or its derivative is used once. The answers may or may not be used in the same plot context as in the quotations given with the definitions.

Act I

accord	pernicious
covert	portent
disparagement	profane
galling	virtuous
partisan	wanton

1. When the Montagues and Capulets begin to fight in the street, an officer of Verona tries to stop them by using clubs and _____
2. The Prince warns the men of the warring houses that they are not to fight or act carelessly or _____ on penalty of death.
3. Romeo and his friends enter the Capulets' home _____, hiding behind their costumes and masks.
4. Tybalt makes _____ remarks about Romeo to his uncle, but Capulet will not let Tybalt fight Romeo because of the Prince's orders.
5. The constant fighting between the two families is fueled by harmful, deadly _____ anger.
6. Romeo has a _____ dream warning him that he should not attend the party.
7. Tybalt finds it irritating and _____ that Romeo is in the Capulets' home.
8. The Nurse says that Juliet's mother is a "good lady, _____ and wise."
9. Romeo is so much in love that he believes Juliet's hand is a holy shrine which he might _____ with his kiss.
10. Romeo and Juliet have fallen in love and are of one _____ in disregarding their family names and the ancient feud.

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
Romeo and Juliet

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Act II

air
baleful
chide
entreaty
forsake

idolatry
intercede
rancor
repose
utter

1. Mercutio tells Benvolio that he cannot _____ in the field because it's too cold.
2. As Romeo waits under Juliet's balcony, he openly _____ a complaint to his teasing friends that "he jests at wounds who never felt a scar."
3. Romeo's adoration of Juliet borders on worship and pure _____.
4. Before she sees Romeo on the grounds below her balcony, Juliet very quietly _____ aloud her most private thoughts about him.
5. For Juliet to marry Romeo, she must be willing to _____ her family allegiance.
6. Romeo and Juliet both know that their marriage will evoke the _____ of the houses of Montague and Capulet.
7. Before Romeo meets the Friar, he is working with some _____ herbs and flowers to make medicines. The Friar comments that herbs can either heal or poison.
8. Romeo's friends Mercutio and Benvolio playfully _____ Romeo for the time he spent under Juliet's balcony.
9. Juliet makes many earnest _____ to the Nurse to reveal what news she has from Romeo.
10. The Nurse could _____ and stop the marriage of Romeo and Juliet, but she decides to help with the scheme for the couple to be married by Friar Lawrence.

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
Romeo and Juliet

Using the SAT words below, fill in the blanks with suitable vocabulary choices. Each word or its derivative is used once. The answers may or may not be used in the same plot context as in the quotations given with the definitions.

Act III

ascend
beguile
calamity
dexterous
discord

dissemble
feint
perjury
submissive
vexation

1. Benvolio comments that the day is so hot it may cause people to lose their tempers, resulting in great strife and civil _____.
2. Tybalt is an excellent swordsman and is considered by the people of Verona as agile and _____.
3. The fatal blow which kills Mercutio may have been meant by Tybalt as a simple _____, but because Romeo comes between the two men, Tybalt's sword thrust unexpectedly kills Mercutio.
4. Juliet is stunned by the news of two great _____, the tragic death of her cousin Tybalt and the Prince's sudden banishment of Romeo.
5. When Juliet learns that Romeo has killed Tybalt, she fears that Romeo is heartless and has _____ her into loving him.
6. The Nurse tells Juliet that she believes that all men lie and _____.
7. Both the Montagues and Capulets are _____ to the Prince's will in his decision to banish Romeo.
8. When Romeo draws a dagger and tells the Friar he will kill himself, the Friar says that, in doing so, Romeo will commit _____ because he swore his love for Juliet.
9. The Friar advises Romeo to _____ to Juliet's room upstairs and stay and comfort her until just before dawn, when he must leave for Mantua.
10. Juliet's father experiences great _____ and frustration because she refuses to marry Paris.

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
Romeo and Juliet

Using the SAT words below, fill in the blanks with suitable vocabulary choices. Each word or its derivative is used once. The answers may or may not be used in the same plot context as in the quotations given with the definitions.

Act IV

dirge
inundate
lament
melancholy
pensive

prostrate
resolute
stark
supple
treachery

1. Juliet cries pitifully that the beautiful wedding songs of the day have turned into sad _____.
2. Juliet is _____ in her loyalty to Romeo and her refusal to marry Paris.
3. Paris tells the Friar that he has had little chance to talk of love since Juliet constantly _____ the house with her tears.
4. In a solemn and _____ mood, Juliet tells the Friar that she'd rather kill herself than marry Paris.
5. Juliet's dark _____ is quickly remedied by Friar Lawrence's daring plan.
6. Friar Lawrence explains that when Juliet drinks the contents of the vial, her body will not appear _____ or soft, but rigid as in death.
7. The Friar explains that for forty-two hours Juliet's body will give the appearance of _____ death, though she will actually live.
8. Juliet tells her father she is ready to fall down _____ before him and to beg his pardon for being stubborn and disobedient.
9. In her grief, the Nurse cries over and over that the day of Juliet's presumed death is _____.
10. Actually, Juliet's lie to her father and her plan to deceive everyone with her feigned death amounts to deception and _____.

Fill-in-the-Blank Activity
Romeo and Juliet

Using the SAT words below, fill in the blanks with suitable vocabulary choices. Each word or its derivative is used once. The answers may or may not be used in the same plot context as in the quotations given with the definitions.

Act V

cordial
dispatch
engrossed
inauspicious
interred

penury
peruse
presage
rigor
thwart

1. Romeo's _____ of the coming of a happy event was soon proven to be incorrect.
2. A servant arrives from Mantua to tell Romeo that Juliet is _____ in the Capulets' tomb.
3. Romeo seeks out an apothecary to buy a _____ that will kill him instantly. Romeo plans to use the poison if he learns that Juliet is indeed dead.
4. The _____ law of Mantua decrees that no one may sell poison, probably because of the deadly use of poison by the Medici rulers.
5. Since he has heard that the apothecary is poor, living in extreme _____, Romeo believes the apothecary will break the law and sell him poison.
6. The Friar _____ a letter to tell Romeo that Juliet is not dead, but the letter arrives too late.
7. As he approaches the Capulets' monument, Romeo fights with Paris and kills him, and then _____ his face closely.
8. Romeo is so _____ by the death of Paris and the seeming death of Juliet that he cannot remember what his servant said about Paris marrying Juliet.
9. In the tomb Romeo sees the body of Tybalt and asks pardon for causing his untimely and _____ death.
10. Friar Lawrence's plan to reunite Romeo and Juliet is _____ by bad timing and miscommunication.

Complete List of SAT Words
Romeo and Juliet

1. accord	I ii	26. lament	I v
2. air	II ii	27. melancholy	IV v
3. ascend	III iii	28. partisan	I i
4. baleful	II iii	29. pensive	IV i
5. beguile	III ii	30. penury	V i
6. calamity	III ii	31. perjury	III iii
7. chide	II ii	32. pernicious	I i
8. cordial	V i	33. peruse	V iii
9. covert	I i	34. portent	I i
10. dexterous	III i	35. presage	V i
11. dirge	IV v	36. profane	I v
12. discord	III i	37. prostration	IV ii
13. disparage	I v	38. rancor	II ii
14. dispatch	V i	39. repose	II ii
15. dissembler	III ii	40. resolute	IV i
16. engrossed	V iii	41. rigor	V iii
17. entreaty	II ii	42. stark	IV i
18. feint	III i	43. submissive	III i
19. forsake	II ii	44. supple	IV i
20. gall	I i	45. thwart	V iii
21. idolatry	II ii	46. treachery	IV i
22. inauspicious	V iii	47. utter	II ii
23. intercede	II ii	48. vexation	III v
24. interred	V iii	49. virtuous	I v
25. inundate	IV i	50. wanton	I iv

Multiple Choice Exam
Romeo and Juliet

1. to intervene or to act as a mediator and arbitrate disputes
 - a. beguile
 - b. disparage
 - c. intercede
 - d. inundate
 - e. perjury
2. an earnest request or plea in which someone makes an appeal
 - a. accord
 - b. disparage
 - c. dissemble
 - d. entreaty
 - e. portent
3. being completely overcome or exhausted, face down in submission
 - a. baleful
 - b. dexterous
 - c. partisan
 - d. presage
 - e. prostrate
4. to effectively oppose or stop something from happening
 - a. air
 - b. chide
 - c. forsake
 - d. thwart
 - e. utter
5. to lie or to be at rest or the absence of movement
 - a. dispatch
 - b. intercede
 - c. lament
 - d. repose
 - e. vexation
6. to move upward, to climb or rise from a lower station
 - a. ascend
 - b. dispatch
 - c. idolatry
 - d. peruse
 - e. portent
7. to send away with promptness or speed, quickness, haste, expediency
 - a. covert
 - b. dispatch
 - c. engross
 - d. inundate
 - e. presage
8. strictness, severity, or harshness, the full severity of the law
 - a. calamity
 - b. pernicious
 - c. rigor
 - d. stark
 - e. wanton
9. excessive devotion, obsession, mania
 - a. accord
 - b. idolatry
 - c. partisan
 - d. portent
 - e. resolute
10. having excellent morals, righteous, ethical, noble
 - a. cordial
 - b. dexterous
 - c. inauspicious
 - d. pensive
 - e. virtuous

11. showing contempt toward sacred things, to violate or defame
 - a. profane
 - b. prostration
 - c. rigor
 - d. supple
 - e. wanton
12. to voice disapproval, to scold, admonish or chasten
 - a. ascend
 - b. beguile
 - c. chide
 - d. covert
 - e. feint
13. lack of agreement, tension or strife, contention
 - a. dirge
 - b. dispatch
 - c. discord
 - d. perjury
 - e. peruse
14. discomfort or distress, annoyance, nuisance, irritation
 - a. calamity
 - b. disparage
 - c. engrossed
 - d. vexation
 - e. wanton
15. to mourn or to express sorrow in a demonstrative way
 - a. air
 - b. lament
 - c. discord
 - d. melancholy
 - e. pensive
16. a funeral hymn, a slow mournful musical composition
 - a. ascend
 - b. beguile
 - c. covert
 - d. dirge
 - e. lament
17. to read or to examine with thoroughness or care
 - a. peruse
 - b. portent
 - c. presage
 - d. repose
 - e. utter
18. secret, concealed, clandestine, stealthy or surreptitious
 - a. accord
 - b. baleful
 - c. covert
 - d. dexterous
 - e. feint
19. to quit or leave entirely, to depart from, desert, or abandon
 - a. ascend
 - b. disparage
 - c. forsake
 - d. intercede
 - e. presage
20. courteous and gracious manner, or a strong, sweetened aromatic medicine or liqueur
 - a. baleful
 - b. cordial
 - c. dirge
 - d. gall
 - e. portent

21. bitter deep-seated ill will,
animosity or antagonism
- covert
 - discord
 - forsake
 - pernicious
 - rancor
22. harsh, grim or desolate,
extremely simple or severe
- stark
 - submissive
 - supple
 - treachery
 - virtuous
23. a serious event causing distress
or misfortune
- cordial
 - calamity
 - entreaty
 - partisan
 - pensive
24. to cover with water, to flood, to
overflow
- ascend
 - calamity
 - dispatch
 - inundate
 - inter
25. immoral, lewd, licentious
- beguile
 - disparage
 - dissembler
 - pensive
 - wanton

Writing Activity
Romeo and Juliet Act III, scene ii

When the Nurse tells Juliet that Romeo has killed her cousin Tybalt and that the Prince has banished Romeo from Verona, Juliet's thoughts and emotions are turbulent.

Read the speech below, noticing the varied use of contrasting imagery. How does the writer reveal Juliet's state of mind as she absorbs this terrible news? What is Juliet's opinion of Romeo at this moment? Contrast Juliet's reaction and opinion with that of the Nurse.

Write an essay in which you describe the use of such devices as imagery, diction, and paradox to reveal characterization and attitude. What universal theme is revealed in this passage? Support your conclusions with brief quotations from the speech.

Juliet: O serpent heart, hid with a flow'ring face!
Did ever dragon keep so fair a cave?
Beautiful tyrant! fiend angelical!
Dove-feather'd raven! wolvish-ravening lamb!
Despised substance of divinest show!
Just opposite to what thou justly seem'st—
A damned saint, an honourable villain!
O nature, what hadst thou to do in hell
When thou didst bower the spirit of a fiend
In mortal paradise of such sweet flesh?
Was ever book containing such vile matter
So fairly bound? O, that deceit should dwell
In such a gorgeous palace!

Nurse. There's no trust,
No faith, no honesty in men; all perjur'd,
All forsworn, all naught, all dissemblers.