

## *Romeo and Juliet*

### 5 Dramatic Purposes for Act 1 Scene 1

1. Street fight – captures the audience's attention and shows the seriousness of the feud.
2. All the leading characters are introduced except Juliet and Mercutio.
3. The setting is introduced – Verona.
4. The basic conflict is revealed in the romance that is threatened by a family feud – Romeo's distance from his family members because of his feelings for a young girl (nameless at this point).
5. Benvolio's prophecy of his death (last line in scene) prepares the audience for the further tragic developments.

## Prologue – page 9

### Important features:

1. Performed by the Chorus.
2. Written in Shakespearean Sonnet format:
  - 14 lines
  - First 12 lines follow **ABAB** rhyme scheme – every first and third line rhyme with each other and every second and fourth line rhyme with each other.
3. Last 2 lines are called a couplet – as they are two rhyming lines in a poem. They follow an **AA** rhyme scheme.

## List of Character:

**Escalus** – Prince  
(governor) of  
Verona

**Paris** – a young  
nobleman, relative  
of Prince

**Montague and  
Capulet** – heads of  
two warring  
families

**Romeo** – son to  
Montague

**Mercutio** – relative  
of Prince, best  
friend of Romeo

**Benvolio** – nephew  
of Montague,  
friend of Romeo

**Tybalt** – nephew of  
Lady Capulet

**Friar Laurence** – a  
holy priest

**Friar John** – a holy  
monk

**Balthsar** – servant  
of Romeo

**Sampson and  
Gregory** – servants  
of Capulet

**Peter** – servant of  
Juliet's nurse

**Abraham** – servant  
of Montague

**Lady Montague** –  
wife of Montague

**Lady Capulet** – wife  
of Capulet

**Juliet** – daughter of  
Capulet

**Nurse** – Nanny to  
Juliet

**Chorus**

**Setting** – Verona,  
Mantua