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

***Romeo and Juliet* Final Essay- Option #1**

Directions: In your study of Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet*, you have focused on key scenes that highlight the quandaries (or dilemmas) Romeo and Juliet faced. You have analyzed the reasons for their choices, based on the many factors that influenced them. You have read others’ opinions and related readings to better understand these factors. In consideration of what these many sources communicate about Romeo and Juliet’s end, answer the following question:

**Who or what is to blame for Romeo and Juliet’s death?**

To complete the assignment successfully you ***must:***

* Argue for no more than two factors, ranking them by importance in your essay.
* Develop a counterclaim to your argument(s) and provide evidence for it.
* Draw on textual evidence primarily from *Romeo and Juliet* and the critical essay I provided.

In your essay be sure to:

* Introduce precise claims, counterclaims, reasons, and evidence in a way that is clear, convincing, and considers the audience’s knowledge and concerns.
* Make use of transitional words and phrases to help make the thinking of your argument clear.
* Base your arguments solely on information contained in the two texts.
* Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support your argument.
* Use varied and effective sentence structure and vocabulary.
* Organize your ideas effectively, coherently, and clearly in your writing, including an introduction that hooks your reader and a conclusion that leaves your reader thinking.
* Follow the conventions of standard written English, especially those that were covered in your grammar packets!