Muldoon Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  
English 9A **Romeo & Juliet Project Options  
  
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**Creative Writing**

For this option, you will do three smaller projects to combine into one. First, write at least 2 journal entries or letters from a character’s perspective. These should be at least 1 page in length hand-written (½ page typed) each and should reference specific parts in the play while providing in-depth character reactions, feelings, etc. Second, write a sonnet (following the typical sonnet rhyming scheme) about a character, a scene, an act, a character’s interpretation of a theme, a character’s reaction to an event, etc. Just use *Romeo & Juliet* as inspiration. Your poem should be 14 lines long. Lastly, write an alternate ending to *Romeo & Juliet.* How would’ve you preferred the ending to go? Will your ending dramatically change the themes present within the play? This should be around 2 pages in length.

**Full-size Body Biography**This project is an in-depth analysis of a particular character (Suggested: Romeo, Nurse, Mercutio, Juliet, Friar Laurence). I will provide you with a life-size sheet of paper. You will need to trace around a body to create a life-sized body to be your canvas for displaying your critical reflection in regards to the following:  
 **1. Placement:** Carefully choose the placement of your text and artwork. For example, the area where your character’s heart would be might be appropriate for illustrating important relationships within his/her life.  
**2. Spine:** Actors often discuss a character’s spine (the person’s objective or goal within the play). What is the most important goal for your character? What drives his/her thoughts and actions? How can you illustrate this?  
**3. Virtues and Vices:** What are your character’s most admirable qualities? Worst? How can you make us visualize them?  
**4. Color:** Colors are often symbolic. What color(s) do you most associate with your character? Why? How can you effectively work these colors into your presentation?  
**5. Symbols:** What objects can you associate with your character that illustrate that person’s essence? Are there objects mentioned within the play itself that you could use? If not, choose objects that especially seem to correspond with the character.  
**6. Mirror, Mirror:** Consider both how your character appears to others on the surface and what you know about the character’s inner self. Do these images clash or correspond? What does this tell you about the character?  
**7. Changes:** Has your character changed so far throughout the play? How?   
  
You may write an explanation for your choices on the back or you may include the explanation directly onto the body. Include his/her 5 most important lines (include Act, Scene, Line #) and cover all major plot points your character is involved in.

**Create a Soundtrack to *Romeo & Juliet***Create a CD with real music to help tell the story of *Romeo & Juliet.* Each act must be represented by at least 2 songs (= 10 songs for the entire CD). For example, “Daylight” by Maroon 5 mirrors how Romeo was feeling about leaving Juliet in Act 3:5. For each song, explain in a parahraph how specific lyrics within connect to specific lines in the play. Use music and artists that you listen to regularly already. You will need to turn in the lyrics to each of the songs you select.   
  
You must also design a front and back CD cover (draw, paint, collage, etc.—NO google images.) This cover should contain: the play, the author, song titles and be focused around illustrating a theme of the play.

**Children’s book OR Comic book**

Other writers have used the basic plot of *Romeo and Juliet* to show societies torn apart by religious warfare, class struggle, even battling cliques within a school. Re-write the Capulet party as a clash between hippie vegetarians and conservative, meat-eaters or as red and green apples on opposite sides of the orchard. Choose a situation that echoes the feud within the play and the chaos of different worlds coming together through two individuals. Translate Romeo and Juliet into a new setting with new characters and language, while keeping elements from the original. You may draw, paint, collage, etc. to create your pictures. Do include as many words and captions as necessary. You may not use Google Images. Each page should be artful, neat, and creative and lead readers to understand the basic plot line of *Romeo and Juliet* as well as the main themes throughout the play. You will turn in your 10+ page book along with at least 1 well-developed paragraph explaining which themes you were trying to develop and how you did so within your project.

**Film Analysis**

Just like we did in class for the “Balcony Scene,” you may choose an alternate scene(s) to compare and contrast using the Cinematic Element Worksheets. You will take notes on the lighting, shot types, sound, angles, movement, costumes, props/sets, and acting choices of both the 1968 and 1996 versions. Which version better suits the mood, atmosphere or “themes” that Shakespeare really wanted to highlight? Why do you think those were Shakespeare’s original intentions? You will need to write a 5 paragraph essay that analyzes how the cinematic elements you noted help to create mood, atmosphere, and theme. You will turn in your detailed note taking forms as well as your essay. You will need to find these movies online or rent them. (The 1968 version is on youtube; the 1996 version is not.)