*The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*

**Final Assignment - Argumentative Extended Response**

**Due Date: Monday May 20, 2013**

**Standards:** (RI.9-10.1) Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support [analysis](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/9-10/1) of what the text says explicitly as well as [inferences](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/RL/9-10/1) drawn from the text.

(W.9-10.1) Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid [reasoning](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/W/9-10/1) and relevant and [sufficient](http://www.corestandards.org/ELA-Literacy/W/9-10/1) evidence.

**GLO:** Self Directed Learner, Complex Thinker

**Task:** Write a 2-paragraph argumentative extended response using textual evidence to support your claim, proper MLA citations, and works cited.

**INTRODUCTION**: An **argumentative** paper makes a position/claim about a topic and justifies this claim with specific evidence. The goal of the argumentative paper is to convince the audience that your claim is true based on the evidence you provide to support your side of the argument. Your argument will include evidence to support your belief of why your position is valid, but you also will offer reasons to an opposing argument known as a counterclaim then state why your position or claim is more valid than the counterclaim.

**Steps to completing your response:**

**1. Given a questions from Shakespeare’s The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet, answer the question and take a position. (Third person; no “I” or” you”)**

Ex: Who is to blame for the deaths of Romeo and Juliet?

**Position/Claim**: There are many people who contributed to the deaths of Romeo and Juliet but ultimately, the ones to blame for their deaths are The Capulets and Montagues.

**2. Read through text again to find the evidence needed to support your position/claim.**

1. On the organizer make notes of where you found your evidence. Your reasons need to be supported with evidence from the text so always note where you found it (Act, Scene and line numbers).
2. You will have to cite your evidence in MLA format within your 2 paragraph extended response as well as do a work cited entry.

**3. Complete the organizer:**

1. Brainstorm two reasons that support your claim and two pieces of evidence from the text that supports your reason for your position or claim. (Using the organizer)

**Reason**: A person cannot help who they fall in Love with, and in the case of Romeo and Juliet, they happen to fall in Love with each other before knowing the other’s true identity.

**Evidence**: In Shakespeare’s “The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet,” Romeo states “Did my heart love till now? Forswear it, sight! For I ne’er saw true beauty till this night” (1.5.51-52).

1. You will do the same for the counterclaim. (Using the organizer)

**Reason**: Although Friar Lawrence played a big role in assisting with this tragedy, he was only trying to help the situation by satisfying both Romeo and Juliet, while trying to make peace between The Capulets and Montagues. Therefore, he is not the one to ultimately blame for their deaths.

**Evidence**: Friar Lawrence agrees to be of assistance with the hope that this union will cause an alliance between the Capulets and Montagues and end the hatred that they have towards one another (2.3.90-92).

**4. Using the information from your organizer write your extended response rough draft. (Using checklist)**

**5. Write your extended response Final Draft. (Using Response Sheet)**

GRADING: (0=No, 1=somewhat, 2=clearly)

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 Topic: Does your introductory paragraph clearly state the topic you are writing about?

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 Claim: Does your position/claim answer the question: **Is fate alone responsible for the deaths of Romeo and Juliet, or should certain characters be held accountable?**

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 Organization: Do your paragraphs clearly state your claim & counterclaim? Do

Introduce each in each paragraph? Did you include a concluding statement?

\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 Specific Evidence: Did you include evidence (direct quotes or paraphrasing from the play to support your claim)? Is evidence cited?

\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 2 Grammar & Mechanics: Proper spelling and grammar. Do not use “I,” “you,” or “me.”

\_\_\_\_\_\_ /10 x5= \_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50 TOTAL