

Romeo and Juliet
**Perfect Mate
student form**

Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

In Act I, Scene ii (2) of Romeo and Juliet, Lord Capulet (Juliet's father) and Paris (the cousin of the Prince) who wants to marry Juliet, discuss the marriage. In many cultures, marriages are arranged by parents with little or no input from the bride and groom. In this scene Lord Capulet tells Paris:

*"My will to her consent is but a part.
And she agreed, within her scope of choice
Lies my consent and fair according voice."*

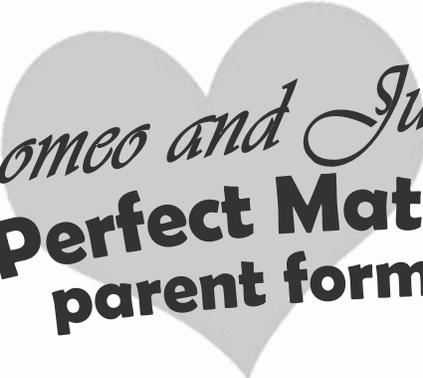
So, Lord Capulet at least is telling Juliet's suitor that she must also consent/agree to the marriage. Of course, we later find out that Juliet does not want to marry Paris. She has fallen in love with the only son of her family's arch-enemy, Lord Montague.

Have you ever dated or even expressed an interest in a guy or girl that your parents disapproved of? If so, you should have some empathy for what Juliet and Romeo are going through in this play.

If you had to list the traits (physical, personality, etc.) of your perfect mate, what would they be?
Try to be as specific as you can be.

Now, switch to a more difficult perspective and try to figure out *what traits your parent(s) would list if he or she were choosing the perfect mate for you.* Again, try to be specific.

REMEMBER! Don't let your parent read your list at least until he/she has completed the other side.



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parent form**

Student's Name : _____

Dear Parent(s):

We are reading Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet in freshmen English, and I would appreciate your taking the time to complete this survey.

As you may remember from your own high school English class, the play centers on two young people who fall in love. Their parents, however, are sworn enemies and make the relationship impossible for Romeo and Juliet. On the other side of this sheet I have asked the students to list traits *they* would want in a "perfect mate." Now, I'm going to ask you to do the same, without having looked at their lists first. Naturally, you're welcome to read what they said after you've answered the questions. Confused? I hope not. If you are, do what I do when I make an assignment that I don't understand: Ask your child what I meant.

Thanks for your help in completing this project.

What traits (physical, personality, etc.) do you think *your son or daughter would look for* if searching for the perfect mate for himself/ herself?

Now, what traits would *you consider most important* if you were choosing the perfect mate for your son or daughter?

Parent Signature: _____ X