**E1H *Romeo and Juliet***

**Introduction: Big Questions**

*Please TYPE thorough, insightful responses to five of the following 10“Big Questions.”*

1. Generational Conflict: In many ways, *Romeo and Juliet* is a story about the old and the young. List some of the biggest differences between older generations (your parents/grandparents) and younger generations in terms of VALUES. In other words, don’t write, “my grandma doesn’t have twitter and I do;” think more about what older people seem to value today and what younger people seem to value today. What conclusions can you draw? What do you notice?

2. Which force is more powerful—love or hate? Include specific examples to back up your points.

3. Loyalty: Is it more important to be loyal to your family, your friends, your religion, your country, or yourself? Maybe there are some connections to *Mango Street* and *Into the Wild* here: How much should you be loyal to yourself in pursuing your goals in life? How much should family, friends, religion, and society be important to you as you live your life?

4. Loyalty: To what extent is rebelling against one’s family, friends, and society justifiable? Have you ever “rebelled” against your family or friends? Were you right to? Explain.

5: Fate: Do you believe more in fate or free will? Moving forward into *Romeo and Juliet* and the world of love, do you believe there’s one person out there who you’re destined/supposed to be with? Do you believe it’s fate that you’ll end up with this person? Do we all have a “soulmate” we’re destined to spend our lives with? Explain.

*More Questions About Love:*

6. Are you allowed to date? Do your parents have “guidelines” for who you date? Do you agree with your parents’ current “rules” about you dating? Where do you agree/disagree and why?

7. What qualities are “musts” in someone you imagine yourself dating/marrying? What qualities do you think your parents value in who you date/marry? Do they match yours? Explain.

8. How do you know when you’re in “love”? What’s the difference between really liking someone a lot and being in love? Explain it.

9. In what ways do men and women see love differently? In what ways do you anticipate Romeo and Juliet will see love differently?

10. In love, is it better to act on impulse and emotion, or is it better to be thoughtful and use reason/logical thinking? Explain.