

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

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

**You Can Read Shakespeare: 4-Step Strategy**

1. You know more than you think you know.
  - **Ask yourself:** What do you already know?
  
2. Consider the context.
  - **Ask yourself:** Who is speaking?  
Where are they? When is it?  
What are they doing? What happens before and after this scene?
  
3. Look for clues.
  - **Ask yourself:** Are there any helpful notes about unknown words?  
Can you use the Shakespearean Word List to help you?
  
4. Write your own translation.

<b>ACT I. SCENE I. Verona. A public place.</b>		
<i>Enter SAMPSON and GREGORY, of the house of Capulet, armed with swords and bucklers (small shields)</i>		
Text	Notes	Translation
<b>GREGORY</b> Draw thy tool! Here comes two of the house of the Montagues.	<i>tool:</i> weapon	Draw the weapon, here comes two people from the house of Montagues
<b>SAMPSON</b> My naked weapon is out: quarrel, I will back thee.	<i>quarrel:</i> fight	My naked weapon is out, fight, I will back out.
<b>GREGORY</b> I will frown as I pass by, and let them take it as they list.	<i>list:</i> please	I'm going to frown when they pass, and let them see it as they please
<b>SAMPSON</b> Nay, as they dare. I will bite my thumb at them; which is a disgrace to them, if they bear it.	<i>bite my thumb:</i> gesture of defiance (like giving someone the finger)	Nay, as they dare. I will bite my thumb at them; which is a disgrace to them, if they can stand it.
<i>Enter ABRAHAM and BALTHASAR, of the house of Montague</i>		
<b>ABRAHAM</b> Do you bite your thumb at us, sir?		Do you want to defy us, sir?
<b>SAMPSON</b> I do bite my thumb, sir.		I do, sir.
<b>ABRAHAM</b> Do you bite your thumb at us, sir?		Do you want to defy us, SIR
<b>SAMPSON</b> [Aside to GREGORY] Is the law on our side, if I say ay?	<i>Is the law on our side:</i> "will I get in trouble?"	Will I get in trouble?
<b>GREGORY</b> No.		No
<b>SAMPSON</b> No, sir, I do not bite my thumb at you, sir, but I bite my thumb, sir.		No sir, I do not quarrel at you, but I bite my thumb, sire.
<b>GREGORY</b> Do you quarrel, sir?		Do you want to quarrel?
<b>ABRAHAM</b> Quarrel sir! no, sir.		Fight sir! No, sir.

<p><b>SAMPSON</b> If you do, sir, I am for you: I serve as good a man as you.</p>	<p><i>man:</i> master</p>	<p>If you want to quarrel, I would be more than happy to.</p>
<p><b>ABRAHAM</b> No better.</p>		<p>No better.</p>
<p><b>SAMPSON</b> Draw, if you be men. Gregory, remember thy swashing blow.</p> <p><i>They fight</i></p> <p><i>Enter BENVOLIO</i></p>	<p><i>draw:</i> fight</p> <p><i>swashing blow:</i> a fighting move</p>	<p>If your a man, fight. Keep in mind about his fighting move</p>
<p><b>BENVOLIO</b> Part, fools! Put up your swords; you know not what you do.</p> <p><i>Beats down their swords</i></p> <p><i>Enter TYBALT</i></p>		<p>Part, fools!Put up your swords; you don't know what you're doing.</p>
<p><b>TYBALT</b> What, art thou drawn among these heartless hinds? Turn thee, Benvolio, look upon thy death.</p>	<p><i>drawn:</i> sword is out</p> <p><i>hinds:</i> female deer</p>	<p>What, the sword is now out against you powerless people. Look away, look at your death, Benvolio</p>
<p><b>BENVOLIO</b> I do but keep the peace: put up thy sword, Or manage it to part these men with me.</p>		<p>But I do keep peace, put up my sword, or manage to part these men with me.</p>
<p><b>TYBALT</b> What, drawn, and talk of peace! I hate the word, As I hate hell, all Montagues, and thee: Have at thee, coward!</p> <p><i>They fight</i></p> <p><i>Enter, several of both houses, who join the fray; then enter Citizens, with clubs</i></p>	<p><i>Have at thee:</i> "On guard!"</p>	<p>We draw our swords and you want to talk about peace? I hate the word peace, the same way I hate hell and all Montagues. Have it, coward!</p>