

13 – THE FRIAR

What role does the Friar play in Romeo and Juliet's relationship?

WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of note paper, or a notebook and something to write with.
- Drawing materials with coloured pens or paints.
- A computer with internet connection, ready to visit [this page](#) and [this clip](#). (from time code 34:16 – 35:02)

ACTIVITY

- Thinking back to the Live Lesson on Romeo and Juliet, consider all the reasons why people might go to the Friar for help. Why does Romeo trust him?
- Visit the photo gallery of the Friar on the Shakespeare Learning Zone in the link above - you will need to click on the character of the Friar to access the images. Which of these images look most like the Friar to you and why?
- Design a costume for the Friar as you see him. He does not have to be a Catholic Friar, but he should represent the main faith in Verona. Remember, this could be any faith you choose and every production will interpret this differently. RSC actor, Andrew French, describes his look as more of a 'yoga master' and he saw the Friar as more of a youth worker, a respected mentor to Romeo in troubled times.
- If you have time, watch Andrew French as the Friar in the clip above.
- Ask yourself: What part does the Friar play in bringing Romeo and Juliet together? What part does he play in their deaths?

EXTENSION

- Write a 'What Happens Next' scene for the Friar. In your scene, the events of the play have happened, and the Friar is being investigated for his involvement in the deaths of Romeo and Juliet. You could write about his arrest, being questioned by the police, his court trial or execution. He could even be on the run! Decide where to set your scene. Is it in Shakespeare's times or modern day? In another country? How many people are in your scene? Does it feature other characters from the play as witnesses, accusers?
- If you have other people around to help, get them to read your scene out loud or even act it out and film it.