

# 18 – THE BANISHMENT

How does the Friar try to calm Romeo down?

## WHAT YOU NEED

- Some pieces of note paper, or a notebook and something to write with.
- A copy of Act 3 Scene 3 to read either on the page or onscreen.
- A computer with internet connection, ready to play [this clip](#) (with RSC actors and RSC Voice Practitioner Nia Lynn).

## ACTIVITY

- Look at the Friar's speech in Act 3 Scene 3 that begins 'Hold thy desperate hand'. Romeo has drawn his sword and the Friar is desperate to calm him down and help him. Highlight or annotate all the images The Friar uses in this speech.
- Say the speech out loud. As you speak the lines, start walking round the room. Change direction every time you come to a piece of punctuation. Does this help separate out the Friar's thoughts? What if you only change direction on the end of a sentence?
- Watch the above clip from the beginning to time code 02:00. The clip investigates one of Juliet's speeches but you can use the same exercise with any speech in verse.
- Say the Friar's speech out loud again and tap out the iambic rhythm. As you do so, write down any words that stand out using this rhythm. These may be words that land on strong or stressed beats or on irregular beats.
- Ask yourself: Does the Friar give Romeo responsible advice? Do you think Romeo get what he wants from him?

## EXTENSION

- Design your version of the Friar's apothecary. Is it a modern place like a chemist or healer's shop? Or is it an older, more historical place such as an alchemist's laboratory or church crypt?
- Make a model box of your apothecary set, or draw a design. You can create models of the Friar and of Romeo and Juliet out of modelling clay to place inside.
- If you have the time, create the stock for your apothecary. You could make miniature bottles out of modelling clay or foil and make tiny boxes or bowls for herbs.