

## ***Romeo and Juliet* - PROLOGUE**

### Activity\*:

- Divide into 7 groups. Each group will have one couplet.
- Circle the words and images that stand out to you.
- Create a tableau that captures the meaning of the couplet.
- Each group will speak the entire couplet, emphasizing the words and images that were circled.
- The whole class will present the Prologue in order, with each group performing their tableau and saying their lines.

### Questions ~

- Which words/phrases stand out for you? Why?
- What does this tell us about the play?
- If you were directing the play would you cut or keep the Prologue? Why?

1.  
{ Two households, both alike in dignity,  
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,

2.  
{ From ancient grudge break to new mutiny,  
Where civil blood makes civil hands unclean.

3.  
{ From forth the fatal loins of these two foes  
A pair of star-crossed lovers take their life,

4.  
{ Whose misadventured piteous overthrows;  
Doth with their death bury their parents' strife.

5.  
{ The fearful passage of their death-marked love;  
And the continuance of their parents' rage,

6.  
{ Which, but their children's end, nought could remove,  
Is now the two hours' traffic of our stage;

7.  
{ The which if you with patient ears attend,  
What here shall miss, our toil shall strive to mend.

\* adapted & inspired by *Globe Education Shakespeare: Romeo and Juliet*, London, Hodder Education, 2011.