

***Romeo and Juliet vs. Midsummer Night's Dream***  
**Comparing and Contrasting the Characters**  
**Essay**

Honors English 9  
Ms. Mitchell

Now that you have completed your character trait charts for the pairs of lovers in *Romeo and Juliet* as well as *Midsummer Night's Dream*, you will be using those charts to construct a compare and contrast essay.

**First**, choose a style to write in. Compare and contrast essays are typically written in either Block Style (everything about one character/topic, then everything about the other character/topic), or Point-By-Point style (Romeo is fickle and Demetrius is fickle, then another character trait compared between plays).

**Second**, Create an outline of how you will construct your essay.

**Third**, write a compare and contrast essay. This essay must include:

1. Introductory Paragraph, including your thesis statement
2. Minimum of three body paragraphs comparing and contrasting character traits between BOTH pairs of lovers, i.e. Romeo vs. Demetrius, Juliet vs. Helena. I estimate it will take 4-6 body paragraphs to adequately cover the topics.
3. Conclusion that summarizes or restates your thesis and leaves the reader in agreement with your assessment of the character traits of each individual.

**This is a two draft essay, first draft due Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> for peer editing in class. Final draft due Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

**Nuts and Bolts:**

1. Turn in final draft via email.
2. Use the text color tool to color your thesis statement **blue** and your transition sentences **red**.
3. Be sure to use the quotes (and perhaps more quotes) that you researched from each play to support your points of contention.
4. Use MLA format for paper. See [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r\\_mla.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/research/r_mla.html) and <http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/humanities/intext.html> for instructions. PLEASE cite your quotes using the parenthetical.citation instructions on this page, i.e. "your quote" (*Romeo and Juliet* 117).or (*Midsummer Night's Dream* 3 1 15-16) Note that there is no punctuation between the play title and the page # or Act, Scene, and Line info. Be sure to create a Works Cited page.