

Name _____

Loves in Parallel Answer Key

Since this is an essay prompt, answers will vary. A strong response should include:

- **Similarities:** Both involve young lovers defying authority, secrecy, and dangerous misunderstandings.
- **Differences:** The main play ends in harmony and multiple marriages, while *Pyramus and Thisbe* ends in tragic death.
- **Purpose:** Shakespeare uses the comic tragedy to parody serious love stories, emphasize how foolish lovers can appear, and provide humor before the final resolution.
- **Personal Reflection:** Students may argue either side but should provide reasons (e.g., the comedy makes the audience laugh at love's extremes; the tragedy shows the risks of miscommunication).