

Name _____

Will's Fate Answer Key

Theme Tracker Chart (Sample Answers)

Excerpt	Evidence of Fate	Evidence of Free Will	Explanation
1	"star-cross'd lovers" (Prologue sets their destiny)	None shown here	Fate is declared from the start, suggesting their story is already written.
2	Romeo fears "some consequence... hanging in the stars"	He still chooses to attend the party	Romeo senses fate's control, but his choice to enter Capulet's feast sets events in motion.
3	"I defy you, stars!"	Romeo chooses to end his life after hearing of Juliet's death	Fate delivers the tragedy, but Romeo actively rejects fate through his decision.

Teacher Notes:

- Encourage students to see the tension: Shakespeare never gives a simple answer; he blends fate and free will.
- Allow flexibility in student responses as long as they cite **textual evidence**.
- Push students to reflect on modern parallels (e.g., "destiny" vs. making one's own path).