*Romeo and Juliet* – Film to Play Comparison

Your name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

After watching either the Zepphirelli (1968), Luhrman (1996), or Carlei (2013) version, answer the following analytical questions about your film.

1. **Director** – the director of a film is the creative force and vision interpreting the play for the different medium of film. Who was your director? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
   1. How does this director’s version compare to the vision you had in your head while reading the play?
   2. In what 3 ways is it different from what you expected?
2. **Acting –** An actor or actress’ goal is to inhabit the character and make you believe in their stories.
   1. Romeo and Juliet – How did you feel about the performances of the two leads. Were you convinced of their love and relationship? How did the performance differ from what you expected?
   2. Mercutio – This and the Nurse are the roles that actors love to play. How did the actor playing Mercutio bring the character to life?
   3. Besides the aforementioned characters, who was your favorite character in the film version of the play? Why? What did the actor bring to the role that was unexpected and new?
3. **Plot** – Some directors alter the plot or order of events in order to fit their vision.
   1. In what two ways does *the plot* from the movie differ from the play?
   2. Introduction – How did the director use the prologue and opening scene to grab the interest of the viewer?
   3. Crisis – The crisis happens in Act 3 of every Shakespearian tragedy. How was the scene filmed to heighten the dramatic impact of Mercutio’s and Tybalt’s death, followed by Romeo’s banishment?
   4. Catastrophe – In a tragedy, the resolution is called the “catastrophe.” How did the catastrophe unfold in the movie version. Was it a satisfying ending to the tragedy?
4. **Setting** – How did the cinematography and shooting location affect the narrative of the story? What do you think was the director’s goal in setting its time period and place?
5. **Overall** – Write a few sentences to critique the film version. Did you like the choices the director made in bringing *Romeo and Juliet* to film? What did you not like?