



# Romeo & Juliet

## The Prologue and Iambic Pentameter

Analytical writing: terms and structure

Question: “Explain three features of the prologue to Romeo and Juliet that help to build interest in the play.”

### Terms:

#### Iambic Pentameter:

The ‘stress pattern’ or the prologue, where each line is made of ten syllables, arranged with an un-stressed syllable followed by a stressed syllable. e.g:

“Two **house**-holds **both** a-like in **dig**-ni-ty”

#### Chorus:

The “character” in a Shakespearian play who acts as a narrator, assisting the audience to understand the context and plot.

#### Metre:

The name for the beat pattern in language, Iambic Pentameter is a type of Metre.

## Paragraph Sentence Starters

“William Shakespeare, in his prologue to the play Romeo and Juliet, uses iambic pentameter to...”

“The prologue of William Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet is designed to...”

“Two key phrases in the prologue to Romeo and Juliet that help us understand the play as a whole are... because they tell us that...”