In this coursework I will be analysing how Shakespeare makes Act 3 Scene 5 dramatic and memorable. Before the scene has started the audience is nervous because of the death scene in the previous scene in which Tybalt killed Mercuito who was Romeo’s best friend; Romeo then sought vengeance by killing Tybalt. This then lead to Romeo being banished to Mantua with no way of seeing Juliet again. The opening of Act 3 Scene 5 is set in Juliet’s bed chamber in, this is dramatic as it sets the scene for tension as Romeo is banished and will be killed if he is caught there.

Juliet tries to convince Romeo to stay. “Wilt thou be gone? It is not yet near day: It was the nightingale and not the lark.” The nightingale represents night and the lark represents day. This then creates tension because if Romeo stays to be with Juliet he might get caught and killed but if he goes he will be away from the woman he loves. The audience also knows this play is a tragedy and things from this point on will not be good for the couple, this then foreshadows the end of play.

In this scene Shakespeare foreshadows the end of the play. “Methinks I see thee, now thou art below, As one dead in the bottom of a tomb.” This reminds the audience that the end of the play is dramatic with the loss of the main characters, the theme of death is prominent here; this then prepares the audience for what is to come.

Shakespeare’s language conveys Juliet’s mood with short sentences and questions. “Who is’t that calls? is it my lady mother? Is she not down so late and up so early? What unacostom’d cause procures her hither?” This quote has layers of meaning as this shows both that Juliet is sad because she mourns the death of her cousin and Romeo’s banishment. It’s dramatic as the other characters are unaware of the secret marriage.

The repetition of the word “loss” foreshadows that Romeo is gone and Juliet has lost him forever. “Yet let me weep for such a feeling of loss.” This shows dramatic irony as Lady Capulet believes that Juliet is weeping for Tybalt but we know she is really weeping for Romeo.

Lady Capulet shows hatred for Romeo’s family. “As that the villain which slaughtere’d him.” The use of the word villain suggests Lady Capulet believes that Romeo is a delinquent. Moreover the use of the word “slaughter” implies that the murder had no meaning, this is untrue as we, the audience, can understand that Romeo is still very young and he killed in vengeance over Mercuito. Lady Capulet is biased as she doesn’t know the whole state of events.

Juliet is upset and refuses to marry Paris. “I will not marry yet; and, when I do, I swear, It shall be Romeo, whom you know I hate”. This quote has double meaning as Lady Capulet thinks Juliet hates Romeo, but we know she is actually in love with him. Furthermore she talks in short sentences which suggest that Shakespeare wants us to know she is upset with this arranged marriage.

Through Shakespeare’s violent language, Lord Capulet is shown to be angry at Juliet for refusing to marry Paris. “Out, you green-sickness carrion! out, you baggage! You tallow-face!” In this quote, Lord Capulet shows how angry he is by insulting Juliet as she refuses the arranged marriage, in Shakespearian times this would be very controversial because a father would have the expectation of a daughter doing exactly what he tells her to do. Moreover Shakespeare uses violent language to show Lord Capulet’s anger “My fingers itch.” This quote suggests Lord Capulet’s anger and rage as he wants to hit his daughter. This is dramatic because an audience today would not expect to see such violence on the stage.

This scene is also dramatic as Juliet’s’ loved ones turn on her. Lady Capulet will not talk to Juliet and may disown her. “Talk not to me, for I’ll not speak a word: Do as thou wilt, for I have done with thee.” Shakespeare builds tension by suggesting that Lady Capulet will not talk to Juliet and implying that if she does not marry Paris she will disown her.

Shakespeare concludes the scene by foreshadowing the end of the play. “If all else fail, myself have power to die.” This is dramatic irony as the end of this scene parallels the end of the play in which Juliet has no other escapism except to kill herself to be with her Romeo again.

The ending of Act 3 Scene 5 in this respect prepares the audience for the tragic ending that will follow.