Paul Elling April 30, 1994 Period 3

ILLUSTRATING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ROMEO AND BENVOLIO

Everyone is different, even Siamese twins. Just as twins are diverse, friends have distinguishable qualities. The differences between Romeo and Benvolio are their loves, peacefulness, and honesty.

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The first quality that distinguishes Romeo from Benvolio is their loves or devotions. Romeo loves women, and he is lovesick over Rosaline. He says, "Out of her favor where I am in love." (p.21) A few lines afterward, Romeo acknowledges the fact that he needs "Rosaline. "Xalas that love, whose view is muffled still..." (p.21) When Romeo first sees Juliet, he is in awe of her beauty. Romeo forgets about Rosaline, and he loves Juliet now. At the Capulet party, he says, "...she doth teach the torches to burn bright! (p.53) Romeo goes on and on about how she is so stunning and that he loves her. Now, Benvolio is disparate. Benvolio devotes his care to his friend, Romeo. Benvolio asks, "What sadness lengthens Romeo's hours? (p.21) He wants to know what troubles his good friend. Then Benvolio says, "No coz, I rather weep." (p.21) Another example of Benvolio's devotion to Romeo is when Romeo kills Tybalt. He urges, "Romeo,

away, begone! (p.125) Benvolio knows that if Prince Escalus catches

Romeo that it could mean execution.

The second dissimilarity between Romeo and Benvolio is how they are peaceful. Romeo is peaceful towards loving women. He is not aggressive in his approach to Rosaline. When Romeo sees Juliet, he immediately falls in love. Romeo cares about Juliet, and so he would do nothing to harm Juliet. Romeo and Juliet exchange vows of love. Juliet forgets what she was going to say. Romeo says, "Let me stand here till thou remember it." (p.81) Benvolio tries to stop battles between the Montagues and Capulets. He pleads, "I do but keep the peace. Put up thy sword..." (p.13) Benvolio wants Tybalt to keep the peace. Romeo is not peaceful, because he slays Tybalt and Paris.

The third and final characteristic that differenciates Romeo and Benvolio is their honesty. Romeo is not honest, because he is keeping his marriage with Juliet a secret from his father.

Furthermore, he is not being honest with Mercutio, Benvolio, or himself by staying quiet about the situation. Romeo is honest about people though. In Act 2, Nurse asks why Mercutio is indecent in his words. Romeo puts it plain and simple, XA gentleman, Nurse, that loves to hear himself talk... (p.99) Of course Benvolio is always honest, polite, and loyal (He is a good boy!). He says, XGood morrow, cousin. (p.21) Benvolio demonstrates his honesty and loyalty to the pince: When Romeo kills Tybalt, Benvolio could have run off with Romeo, but he stays there to explain Romeo's crime. X...There lies the man, slain by young Romeo... (p.125) This is detail of how the honesty of Romeo is different from Benvolio.

The differences between Romeo and Benvolio are their loves.

peacefulness, and honesty. Indeed, everyone has diversity, and no one person is the same.