

## Romeo and Juliet

Read this extract from Act 4 Scene 2 of Romeo and Juliet and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play the Juliet seems to apologise to her father for her disobedience.

	<b>Juliet</b>
	What if it be a poison, which the friar Subtly hath minister'd to have me dead, Lest in this marriage he should be dishonour'd, Because he married me before to Romeo?
5	I fear it is: and yet, methinks, it should not, For he hath still been tried a holy man. How if, when I am laid into the tomb, I wake before the time that Romeo
10	Come to redeem me? there's a fearful point! Shall I not, then, be stifled in the vault, To whose foul mouth no healthsome air breathes in, And there die strangled ere my Romeo comes?
15	Or, if I live, is it not very like, The horrible conceit of death and night, Together with the terror of the place,-- As in a vault, an ancient receptacle, Where, for these many hundred years, the bones
20	Of all my buried ancestors are packed: Where bloody Tybalt, yet but green in earth, Lies festering in his shroud; where, as they say, At some hours in the night spirits resort;--

0 2

Starting with this speech, explore how Shakespeare presents Juliet as a rationale and sensible character.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents Juliet in this exchange.
- how Shakespeare presents Juliet in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]  
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question