Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Ms. Marciano Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Structure in “Romeo and Juliet”

A Shakespearean tragedy can be broken down into six structural elements:

1. Exposition 4. Climax
2. Exciting Force 5. Falling Action
3. Rising Action 6. Catastrophe

In “Romeo and Juliet”, these elements occur as follows:

Act 1 – Exposition, Exciting Force, Rising Action

Act 2 – Rising Action

Act 3 – Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action

Act 4 – Falling Action

Act 5 – Falling Action, Catastrophe

As you read “Romeo and Juliet”, list on the back of this page the main events, which take place during each of the six structural elements of the play.

Catastrophe

Falling Action

Climax

Rising action (with the Exciting Force

Exposition

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Structural Element | Main Event or Events |
| Exposition | 1.2.3. |
| Exciting Force | 1. |
| Rising Action | 1.2.3.4.5.6.7. |
| Climax | 1. |
| Falling Action | 1.2.3.4.5.6.7.8. |
| Catastrophe | 1. |