Don't forget your works cited:

Works Cited

Shakespeare, William. “Romeo and Juliet.” *Collections*. Edited by Kylene Beers et al. Orlando: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2015. 183-278.

It’s Friar LAURENCE, not LAWRENCE (most of you did this wrong)

Sample concession paragraph adapted from a student paper (shown as TEAL plan)

It is clear that the Capulets are partially to blame for the death of the young couple because of Lord and Lady Capulet's contradicting statements. In Act One, Lady Capulet tells Juliet that she should be open to marriage and Paris in particular. But, later in the play, Lord Capulet forces Juliet to be with Paris, informing the lord that “[he] will make a desperate tender/ Of [his] child’s love. [He] think[s] that she will be ruled/ In all aspects by [him]” (3.4.153). This miscommunication is the first reason for the couple’s death. This quote is an example of the unfairness and the misuse of poor Juliet. When Juliet is informed of this contract, she has zero say in the decision-making and no one supports her, not even the Nurse. Because Juliet was excluded from her parents’ decision-making, she could not forewarn the Friar and Romeo about her marriage. Because of the timing, it made it so much more difficult to be honest with her parents about Romeo and she was forced to keep her marriage with Romeo a secret. This was what was so fatal about their relationship. Juliet didn’t feel that she could be honest with her parents, and her dishonesty eventually led to over-complicated plans and death. Due to the Capulet’s impulsive decisions, the young couple had no chance to voice their own opinions.

Also, don't forget you can change bits of your in-text citations to fit the flow of your sentence. Look at the example concession paragraph above. The author changed all of the "I" and "me" parts to "he" and "his" by putting the new word in brackets. I know this essay is more difficult because they play is only dialogue (this often results in a he said/she said format) but try to move some things around. If you feel like the quote you chose isn’t serving a purpose in your essay, come see me. We can either find something better, or we could talk about ditching a direct quote completely.

Organization

You should have 5 paragraphs total. Do not forget to add transitional language. Follow the guidelines below to help you with your paragraphs.

* Introduction (in this order)
  + Title and author
  + Summary of play (make sure you introduce the characters you are basing your essay one)
  + Something about their deaths (to introduce the essay prompt)
  + Thesis
* Body paragraph 1
  + Concession paragraph
    - It is true that…
      * EX. It is true that Friar Laurence played a role in Romeo and Juliet's deaths.
    - It is undeniable…
    - It would be hard to argue that…
  + This paragraph is only conceding/defending this part of the argument, not refuting it.
* Body Paragraph 2
  + Your sub-claim #1
    - Despite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,
      * EX. Despite the part Friar Laurence played, Romeo and Juliet are ultimately at fault because of their miscommunication.
* Body Paragraph 3
  + Your sub-claim #2 (the most important one)
    - Even more significantly…
      * EX. Even more significantly, Romeo and Juliet made their own choices and should be held accountable.
* Conclusion
  + You can do a sentence or two of summary, but you should focus on why is it important to know who is to blame? Can we learn anything?
  + Think about WHY you chose that particular character to blame.
  + Friar Laurence, Nurse, or Parents – They’re the adults in the situation. What are parents’/guardians’ jobs? What should they be responsible for?
  + Fate – Fate is the things we can’t control. Are we always in control of the things that happen to us?
  + Romeo and Juliet – Are we responsible for our own actions?

\*\*Other notes: A lot of you are forgetting about your thesis when you do your analysis. Make sure you make the connection between your character's actions and the deaths of R&J. How did those actions lead to their deaths?

**In-text citations – you need least 3!**

Format – it's just like poetry. You need to have a slash in between each line. Also make sure your capitalization is correct.

"O, she doth teach the torches to burn bright! / It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night / Like a rich jewel in Ethiop's ear" (1.5.42-44). The parenthetical citation should be (Act. Scene. Lines)

If you cite the prologue, your parenthetical will be like this: (prologue.5-6).