5

**Romeo and Juliet**

Read this extract from Act 3 Scene 1 of Romeo and Juliet and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Prince Escalus is deciding how to punish Romeo for killing Tybalt.

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| **LADY CAPULET**He is a kinsman to the Montague;Affection makes him false; he speaks not true:Some twenty of them fought in this black strife,And all those twenty could but kill one life.5I beg for justice, which thou, prince, must give;Romeo slew Tybalt, Romeo must not live.**PRINCE**Romeo slew him, he slew Mercutio;Who now the price of his dear blood doth owe?**MONTAGUE**Not Romeo, prince, he was Mercutio's friend;10His fault concludes but what the law should end,The life of Tybalt.**PRINCE**And for that offenceImmediately we do exile him hence:I have an interest in your hate's proceeding,15My blood for your rude brawls doth lie a-bleeding;But I'll amerce you with so strong a fineThat you shall all repent the loss of mine:I will be deaf to pleading and excuses;Nor tears nor prayers shall purchase our abuses:20Therefore use none: let Romeo hence in haste,Else, when he's found, that hour is his last.Bear hence this body and attend our will:Mercy but murders, pardoning those that kill. |

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 In this extract, explore how Shakespeare presents the nature of justice.

Write about:

• how Shakespeare presents nature of justice in the extract.

You should refer to language and structure.

**Turn over for the next question**

 **Turn over**