Luna

*Romeo and Juliet*

10 points

In our play, Romeo and Juliet fall in “love-at-first-sight.” Your assignment is to see if, 400 years later, people still believe that “love-at-first-sight” exists.

Choose at least **one** adult and **two** teenagers to ask the following questions:

Do you believe that “love-at-first-sight” is possible? Why or why not? Has this ever

happened to you or someone you know? If so, what happened? If you had a friend who

after the first date wanted to get married, what would you tell him or her?

After asking the questions of your THREE subjects, type a well organized page detailing what the interviews revealed. Include any similarities or differences between responses. Also provide your own feelings or comments. Do you think age influences whether a person believes in “love-at-first-sight”? What about gender, culture or personal experience? Why or why not?

Courtly Love

A philosophy of love and a code of courtship which flourished in chivalric times, first in France and later in other countries especially England. According to the system, falling in love is accompanied by great emotional disturbances. The lover is bewildered, helpless, tortured by mental and physical pain, and exhibits certain “symptoms” such as pallor, trembling, loss of appetite, sleepliness, sighing and weeping. He agonizes over his condition and indulges in endless self-questioning and reflections on the nature of love and his own wretched state. His condition improves when he is accepted by the young woman and then he is inspired to great deeds.

Petrarchan Conceit

The kind of conceit used by the Italian poet Petrarch in his love sonnets. It was widely imitated by Renaissance English sonneteers. The style relies upon elaborate and exaggerated comparisons expressing in extravagant terms the beauty, cruelty and charm of the beloved and the suffering , sorrow and despair of the forlorn lover. Oxymorons are commonly used to express the lover’s confusion.

