***Romeo and Juliet***

**Research Task #1**

**Directions:** The following prompt is based on the accompanying three sources.

This question requires you to integrate a variety of sources into a short coherent, well-written

2-3 paragraph essay. Adhere to MLA format and construct a Works Cited page in your response. *Refer to the sources to support your position; avoid mere paraphrase or summary. Your argument should be central; the sources should support this argument.*

Remember to attribute both direct and indirect citations.

**Introduction**

Of all the romantic tales that have been written, perhaps none are as persuasive and popular on the topic of young love as Shakespeare’s tragic *Romeo and Juliet.* Modeled after the archetype of Pyramus and Thisbe, the two love-struck companions end up taking their own lives. But does William Shakespeare have the type of life-experience that would give him a balanced perspective on young tragic love? Does he have the “credentials” to speak to this?

**Assignment**

Read the following sources (including any introductory information) carefully. **Compose**

**a short 2-3 paragraph (in MLA format) that synthesizes three of the sources for support. Take a position that defends, challenges, or qualifies the claim that William Shakespeare has enough personal experience with tragic love to create a realistic portrayal of it in a play.**

**Source A**

<http://www.shakespeare-online.com/biography/shakespearemarriage.html>

Mabillard, Amanda. *Shakespeare of Stratford: Shakespeare's Marriage*. *Shakespeare*

*Online*. Web. 20 Aug.

**Source B**

<http://www.shakespeareinamericancommunities.org/education/life-william-shakespeare>

Johnson, Maurice. "The Life of William Shakespeare (1564–1616)." *The Life of William*

*Shakespeare (1564–1616)*. Shakespeare in American Communities, n.d. Web. 05 Mar.

2015

**Source C**

<http://www.bardweb.net/content/ac/hathaway.html>

Pressley, J. M. "Mrs. Shakespeare: Anne Hathaway." *Shakespeare Resource Center -*.

Shakespeare Resource Center, 2015. Web. 11 Mar. 2015