

Romeo and Juliet

Read this extract from *Act 2 Scene 4* of *Romeo and Juliet* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play Romeo is engaging with Mercutio over love.

	ROMEO	Good morrow to you both. What counterfeit did I give you?
	MERCUTIO	The ship, sir, the slip; can you not conceive?
	ROMEO	Pardon, good Mercutio, my business was great; and in
5		such a case as mine a man may strain courtesy.
	MERCUTIO	That's as much as to say, such a case as yours
		constrains a man to bow in the hams.
	ROMEO	Meaning, to court'sy.
	MERCUTIO	Thou hast most kindly hit it.
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	ROMEO	A most courteous exposition.
	MERCUTIO	Nay, I am the very pink of courtesy.
	ROMEO	Pink for flower.
	MERCUTIO	Right.
	ROMEO	Why, then is my pump well flowered.
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	MERCUTIO	Well said: follow me this jest now till thou hast
		worn out thy pump, that when the single sole of it
		is worn, the jest may remain after the wearing sole
		singular.
	ROMEO	O single-soled jest, solely singular for the
20		singleness.
	MERCUTIO	Come between us, good Benvolio; my wits faint.
	ROMEO	Switch and spurs, switch and spurs; or I'll cry a match

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Starting with this extract, explore how Shakespeare presents male attitude to love.

Write about:

- how Shakespeare presents masculinity and love in this extract.
- how Shakespeare presents masculinity and love as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]

Turn over for the next question