Section A: Shakespeare

Romeo and Juliet

Read the following extract from the start of Act 2 of *Romeo and Juliet* and then answer the question that follows.

At this point in the play the Chorus stresses the family feud.

Chorus
Now old desire doth in his deathbed lie,
And young affection gapes to be his heir.
That fair for which love groaned for and would die,
With tender Juliet ⌈matched,⌉ is now not fair.
Now Romeo is beloved and loves again,
Alike bewitchèd by the charm of looks,
But to his foe supposed he must complain,
And she steal love's sweet bait from fearful hooks.
Being held a foe, he may not have access
To breathe such vows as lovers use to swear,
And she as much in love, her means much less
To meet her new belovèd anywhere.
But passion lends them power, time means, to meet,
Temp'ring extremities with extreme sweet.

Starting with this extract, explain how Shakespeare presents the significance of family allegiance in Romeo and Juliet.

Write about:
- how Shakespeare presents the significance of family allegiance in this extract.
- how Shakespeare presents the significance of family allegiance in the play as a whole.

[30 marks]
AO4 [4 marks]